

MILITARY

Deadline looms for troops who want to transfer GI Bill benefits to family members

Page 5

MIDEAST

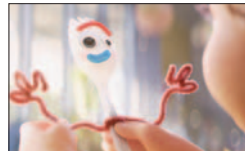
Trump imposes new sanctions on Iran over downed drone

Page 7

FACES

'Toy Story 4' character raises questions about identity and self-worth

Page 17



World Cup: US women beat Spain 2-1, advance to quarterfinals » Back page

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 78, No. 49 ©SS 2019 TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019

平成32年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas



Self-inflicted wound

Course cuts and bigger classes planned at DODEA schools frustrate families, teachers

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Cuts and consolidations of smaller classes at base schools worldwide have students, parents and teachers angry as electives, languages and some core classes are being cut to save costs.

The Department of Defense Education Activity announced its plan Jan. 4 to tweak staffing standards, consolidate classes with low attendance and shed more than 300 "excess" positions. The move was intended to free up funds for school needs such as infrastructure from a budget top-heavy with

RELATED

Foreign language, science among DODEA courses on chopping block Page 4

payroll expenses. The cuts will take effect before the next school year.

The plan calls for bridging the gap with DODEA's Virtual High School online classes. However, students and parents who spoke with Stars and Stripes said the online classes are a poor replacement for in-person instruction.

It is the first shakeup of staffing stan-

dards in about 10 years, DODEA officials have said.

While DODEA officials are not sharing details of the potential classroom impacts, the union representing DODEA educators says cuts will touch nearly every school outside the United States and include more than two dozen course offerings across the Pacific and Europe. There will also be a reduction in the number of sections of certain classes, including core classes, and increased class sizes.

"I think it's just a terrible mistake," Federal Education Association President Chuck McCarter said. "I've been in DODEA for 38 years now and I think this is the worst decision I have ever seen. And it's not only a bad decision; it shows bad priorities."

McCarter said the cuts are a self-inflicted wound, because DODEA's budget was not cut.

SEE CUTS ON PAGE 4

Pompeo says US ready to resume talks with N. Korea

By KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — President Donald Trump will make a two-day visit to South Korea this weekend, officials said Monday, as the U.S. administration said it's ready to resume nuclear talks with the North "at a moment's notice."

Trump's visit, which will be his second trip to the divided peninsula as president, comes amid

'We're ready to go. We're literally prepared to begin at a moment's notice.'

Mike Pompeo
U.S. secretary of state

new optimism for the stalled diplomatic push to persuade the North to abandon its nuclear weapons. The president sent a letter to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un that was welcomed by the communist state, raising hopes for efforts to break the deadlock that followed the February summit between the two men, which ended without agreement in Vietnam.

"I can confirm that that letter was, in fact, sent," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Sunday. "And I am hopeful that this will provide a good foundation for us to begin to continue the important discussions with the North Koreans to denuclearize the peninsula."

North Korea's government mouthpiece, the Korean Central News Agency, described the letter as "excellent" and reported that Kim said he would "seriously contemplate" the content, although neither side provided details about what those were.

Neither said exactly when the letter was sent.

SEE KOREA ON PAGE 3

Students wait for the bus near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, last August. Teachers are reporting that Chinese language classes at Nile K. Kinnick High School at Yokosuka and E.J. King High School at Sasebo Naval Base will be cut before the next school year.

CARLIN DOORNBOS/Stars and Stripes

WAR ON TERRORISM

Taliban threatens journalists unless negative ads stop

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Taliban insurgents warned Monday they will start targeting Afghan journalists unless the media outlets they work for stop broadcasting government-sponsored advertisements speaking out against the group.

The ads, which aim to counter the Taliban's jihad narrative and encourage the public to report suspected insurgent activity, are part of a broader government campaign endorsed by the U.S.-led military coalition.

The Taliban said it would give radio stations, TV channels and

other outlets one week to stop transmitting "enemy actions." Those who continue doing so will be recognized by the group as military targets who are helping the authorities with intelligence gathering.

"Reporters and staff members will not remain safe," the insurgents said in a statement.

Media companies across the country will get extra protection in light of the announcement, Defense Ministry spokesman Rohullah Ahmadzai said. He said the ads should continue to be broadcast.

"It's very clear that such advertisements have helped the government fight terrorism," Ahmadzai



AMY FORSYTHE/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Lt. Col. Joshua Thiel speaks with international and Afghan media at an outpost in eastern Afghanistan on July 7, 2018. The Taliban have announced they will start targeting Afghan media outlets that transmit government-sponsored anti-Taliban announcements.

said. "If they weren't useful we wouldn't continue to use them."

Members of NATO's training mission in Afghanistan have worked with the country's security forces on disseminating information to help counter the Taliban's claims and persuade Afghans to help defeat the militants.

The Taliban have targeted Afghan media in the past, but Monday's threat is the first such

overt move by the group directed at those airing government announcements.

Fifteen media workers were killed in Afghanistan last year, making the country the deadliest in the world for journalists, according to Reporters Without Borders.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.
wellman.phillip@stripes.com
Twitter: @pwwelman

Iraqi special forces kill 14 militants in northern Iraq

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi special forces say they have conducted an operation near the northern city of Kirkuk in which they killed 14 members of Islamic State.

A statement from Iraqi Counterterrorism Forces on Monday says that during the operation, Iraqi forces received support from warplanes of the U.S.-led coalition.

The statement says the operation, just south of Kirkuk, lasted for two days and included Iraqi special forces rappelling from helicopters.

Although Iraq declared victory against ISIS in July 2017, the extremists have since been trying to mount a guerrilla-style insurgency, going into hiding and staging surprise attacks in different parts of the country.

Former DC police officer again gets 15 years for attempting to aid ISIS

By MATTHEW BARAKAT
Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — A former Washington police officer who tried to help Islamic State by purchasing \$245 in gift cards will still serve 15 years in prison even though some of his convictions were tossed out on appeal.

Nicholas Young, of Fairfax, Va., was sentenced to 15 years last

year for obstruction of justice and attempting to provide support to a terrorist group. The federal appeals court in Richmond tossed out the obstruction convictions in February and ordered a new sentencing hearing.

On Friday, U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema reimposed the 15-year term, saying Young's conduct remains troubling. She said Young's status as a police officer

stood out and that he was "a law enforcement officer who on more than one occasion lied to another law enforcement officer."

Young was the first law enforcement officer to be charged with a federal terrorism offense. He had been a patrol officer in the Washington region's Metrorail system and was known as "Officer Friendly" at the Takoma Park station where he was assigned.

Young, a convert to Islam, had been under surveillance going back at least as far as 2010.

In 2016, Young purchased more than \$200 in gift cards he believed would be used to purchase mobile-phone apps ISIS could use to communicate securely. In reality, Young's ISIS connection was an FBI informant.

Defense lawyers had asked Brinkema to cut Young's term to

five years. In court papers, defense lawyer Jessica Carmichael wrote that Young is now "66.6% less guilty" because two of the three counts against him were tossed out by the appeals court.

Young, before he was sentenced, said he knew he made a mistake but also placed blame on the informant, who asked him to buy the gift cards "and pretended to be my friend."

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup 16
Business 15
Classified 19, 23
Comics/Crossword 22
Faces 17
Opinion 20-21
Shifting Gears 18
Sports 24-32
Weather 15

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us,
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 315.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 315.583.9111

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

ICHIRO
KATAYANAGI

CustomerHelp@Stripes.com

+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES. RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions
of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at
www.stripes.com/relo



PACIFIC

Battle of Okinawa anniversary celebrated

By CARLOS M. VAZQUEZ II
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

ITOMAN, Okinawa — Despite the heavy rain Sunday morning, thousands of visitors including Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, U.S. and Japanese government and military officials and family members of the deceased marked 74 years since the end of the Battle of Okinawa.

The annual Irei no Hi ceremony, held at the Okinawa Peace Memorial Park on the anniversary of the fighting ended on Okinawa in 1945, serves as a tribute to the 12,520 American servicemen, 110,000 Japanese troops and 140,000 Okinawan noncombatants who lost their lives, although the exact total number of civilian casualties may never be known.

The World War II battle lasted 82 days but left behind deep feelings and remnants of war. During portions of the ceremony, particularly during Abe's speech, protesters shouted their opposition to the continued U.S. military presence on the island.

"The Okinawans suffered," III Marine Expeditionary Force commander Lt. Gen. H. Stacy Clardy III said while laying wreaths at the Cornerstone of Peace monuments, which bear the names of fallen U.S. servicemen. "This beautiful island still bears the wounds and scars of that war."

Clardy spoke about the somber experience he felt at the site and how honored he was to be in attendance. He assumed command of III MEF, which is headquartered on Okinawa, on May 31.

"It causes me to reflect on my life and how I live it," he said. "It causes me to think that I need to treat others with better respect and dignity."

Clardy pointed out the significance of Okinawa's memorial day and the Marines' presence and history on the island.

"This is an important day in Okinawa; it's also an important day for Marines, Americans, the region, the government of Japan and, I would argue, the world," he said.

An Okinawan woman, mourning and unwilling to share her

name, visited her father's name in the park's engraved stone memorial.

"I was asking my dad [while praying] if it was raining like this on June 23, 1945," she said to Stars and Stripes. "I think it was raining like this on that day."

Another visitor, Ms. Higa, who would give only her last name, lost her father and four siblings during the battle.

"I was the eldest one of four surviving siblings," she said.

While pointing to four more names on the stone wall she added, "My father's side of the family also died."

Marine Corps Sgt. Gary Dashings volunteered to present a wreath at the stone memorial and said he felt welcomed by those in attendance.

"Regardless of what you and someone else might have had in the past, it may be bad or it may be good, but just try to have a positive outlook on the future because you never know what could happen," he said to Stars and Stripes on Sunday.

Futenma relocation

Following the wreath laying was the completion of a 3½-mile peace march by the Japan Joint Association of Bereaved Family Members. Ceremony attendees then found their seats under a large white tent to observe a moment of silence and the start of the ceremony.

"It has been 74 years since the Battle of Okinawa," Abe said in a speech punctuated by the shouts of protesters. "Our current peace and prosperity are based on many people's sacrificed lives and their future," he said. "We must think deeply about it with our head with great respect."

In pauses during Abe's speech, protesters shouted in Japanese, "Go home!" "Liar!" and "Stop Henoko construction!"

Protesters in Okinawa have called for halting construction of a runway at Camp Schwab in a small, coastal Marine Base in the densely populated Henoko — that will one day facilitate the relocation and closure of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Residents around Futenma, which is in a densely populated,



PHOTOS BY CARLOS VAZQUEZ/Stars and Stripes

III Marine Expeditionary Force commander Lt. Gen. H. Stacy Clardy III speaks before laying wreaths at the Cornerstone of Peace monuments prior to the Irei no Hi ceremony at Okinawa Peace Memorial Park on Sunday.

urban area of Okinawa, have raised safety concerns about its operations.

"We continue to reduce the burden from Okinawa by performing everything we can and making the result visible," Abe said.

One thing the central government of Japan has indicated it will not do is halt construction of the new airfield at Camp Schwab or move Marine Corps aircraft off the island.

Futenma's relocation plan has been met with small but persistent protests since 2006 when the U.S. and Japan decided to maintain Marine air operations within the prefecture. The project was forecast to be completed by 2014 but slowed significantly due to construction delays and unsuccessful court challenges by anti-base Okinawa governors.

Landfill work for the runway at Camp Schwab began in December, and the estimated completion date of the project stretches beyond 2025.

On June 17, the Central and Local Government Dispute Management Council rejected Okinawa's request to reconsider moving the Marine aircraft to Henoko.



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, far right, attends the ceremony on Sunday.

'Chimugukuru'

In a speech at last year's memorial service, former anti-base Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga swore to stop the Henoko construction. Onaga, who had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, died in August.

Denny Tamaki, Okinawa's current governor, shares the same anti-base views as his predecessor.

"I renew my resolve every time I hear heart-wrenching stories from war survivors who went

through the inhumane experiences, that we shall not go to war ever again," he said in a speech at the ceremony Sunday.

Tamaki concluded in English saying: "We must pass down Okinawa's warm heart we call 'chimugukuru' and its spirit of peace, inherited from our ancestors, to our children and grandchildren. We will endeavor to forge a world of everlasting peace; I am determined to work together with the people of Okinawa."

vazquez.carlos@stripes.com
Twitter: @StripesCarlos
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com

Koreas: Trump set to hold summit with South Korea to discuss peace

FROM FRONT PAGE

The two sides have agreed to a vague promise to denuclearize the peninsula but have failed to bridge a wide gap over how to do that.

The United States has insisted it will maintain punishing economic sanctions against the North until it gives up its nuclear weapons. Pyongyang wants a phased approach that would include rewards for steps taken along the way.

In response to a question, Pompeo said the North's response to the letter indicated that the resumption of working-level talks "may well be a very real possibility."

"We have been working to lay the foundations for that since Hanui. We think we're in a better place," he told reporters at Joint Base Andrews before flying to the Middle East. He will join Trump in South Korea.

"We're ready to go. We're literally prepared to begin at a moment's notice if the North Koreans indicate that they are prepared for those discussions," Pompeo said.

Trump will fly to South Korea on Saturday following participation in the G-20 meetings of rich and developing nations in Japan.

He will hold a summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Sunday to discuss "methods for close coordination between the two nations for the establishment of permanent peace through the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," as well as solidifying the alliance between their nations, Moon's spokeswoman, Ko Min-jung, said.

The rest of his schedule was not immediately announced, leading to speculation that Trump may visit the truce village of Panmunjom, also known as the Joint Security Area, in the heavily fortified border that divides the peninsula.

Trump tried to visit the area in the so-called Demilitarized Zone, which is the only point where troops from the rival sides come face-to-face, during his last visit to South Korea in November 2017 but his helicopter was forced to turn back because of bad weather.

Trump also is expected to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G-20 summit. Xi stressed the need for all sides to "stick to peace talks" during his first trip to North Korea last week.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
Twitter: @kimgamel
chang.kyong@stripes.com

MILITARY

Cuts: DODEA plans to cut courses, positions are drawing criticism

FROM FRONT PAGE

"We should be adding opportunities ... not cutting them," he said.

DODEA's new staffing formula calls for one teacher per 17 students in grades six to eight — instead of one teacher per 16 students, which is the current ratio. In grades nine to 12, schools will be afforded seven teachers for the first 124 students, down from eight.

The result is 308 full-time teachers being cut from the rolls along with 12 school principals and assistant principals, DODEA spokesman Will Griffin said. The numbers reflect 87 teachers from the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools pilot program, which was popular with parents but is being discontinued; 178 from grades six through 12 in Europe and the Pacific; and 43 from school closures in South Korea.

Also being trimmed are 54 administrators from DODEA's above-school level offices, Griffin said. Above-school level is the term used for management positions that do not spend time in a DODEA classroom.

Teachers from the Federal Education Association say that electives such as culinary arts and music, languages such as French and German, college prep courses and remedial math labs are being slashed. Kubasaki High School on Okinawa, for example, stands to lose French, guitar, piano, Advanced Placement calculus BC and math lab classes, association spokesman Gary Hritz said.



Will Morris/Stars and Stripes

German immersion teacher Gabriele Arseneault talks to Landsstuhl Elementary/Middle School students about a book her class read together on the first day of the 2018-19 school year. DODEA announced some courses at base schools are being cut to save costs.

Language, science, culinary arts among courses on chopping block

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

In addition to elementary foreign languages, teachers are reporting that Nile C. Kinnick High School at Yokosuka Naval Base and E.J. King High School at Sasebo Naval Base, both in Japan, will lose their Chinese language classes, Federal Education Association spokesman Gary Hritz said.

Kubasaki High School on Okinawa stands to lose French, guitar, piano, Advanced Placement calculus BC and math lab classes.

Daegu Middle/High School in South Korea stands to lose its Advancement Via Individual Determination college preparation program and Reading 180, Hritz said. Humphreys High School is likely to see reductions in the number of social studies and science classes.

In Europe, SHAPE High School in Belgium is reportedly losing its culinary arts class; Spangdahlem High School in Germany is reportedly losing German classes; and Spangdahlem Middle School stands to lose its Spanish and applied technology classes and see reduced sections of

physical education and music, Hritz said.

Wiesbaden High School stands to lose French and career practicum, as well as sections of robotics and science. Ramstein High School will reportedly lose French and robotics along with sections of social studies. Kaiserslautern High School will offer fewer electives, and class sizes are expected to balloon to between 25 and 30 students in core classes.

Stuttgart High School stands to lose French and video communications. Vilseck High School will reportedly lose culinary arts, upper level German and sections of core classes, Hritz said. Brussels American School in Belgium will reportedly lose drama and humanities, with "possible cuts" to special education services, he said.

Alconbury Middle High School in England is reportedly losing high school robotics, gaming technology/web design, research, drama and speech, and middle school choir, drama and environmental science, Hritz said. They also stand to lose remedial math labs at the middle and high school levels.

burke.matt@stripes.com
svan.jennifer@stripes.com

Bureaucratic bloat

Sections of core classes or courses will also be reduced, limiting scheduling availability, and class sizes are expected to balloon.

Hritz said the cuts are being made because DODEA director Thomas Brady increased bureaucratic bloat in the DODEA offices when he took the position in 2014. Hritz said above-school level positions have increased in DODEA offices from 856 in 2014 to an estimated 1,047 in 2018. (DODEA officials said there are currently 1,476 worldwide.)

During that same period, enrollment and the teacher numbers have dropped, Hritz said.

"At a time when our schools have still been shrinking, the above-school level staff has grown, and so now they're choosing to cut direct services to students, cut teachers, while keeping all those above-school level positions," McCarter, the union president, said.

"The problem with DODEA is not that we have classes that are too small. Small classes are good; kids get individual attention; most school systems would brag about small classes. The problem with DODEA is we have too many people who don't teach at all," McCarter said.

"We have these above-school level positions that we don't see any benefit from and yet they're cutting direct services to kids, and we're really implementing programs that we offer for the kids."

mation technology hardware and software.

"As we look to the future and how we can continue to best serve our military-connected student population, it is important that we make investments in our organization to sustain and improve critical infrastructure and education programs that directly support student achievement," he said.

"Our budget was not cut; however, after examining staffing and class sizes across DODEA, there were opportunities to gain efficiencies and better align staffing through a minimal increase to class sizes at the secondary grade level."

Griffin said improvements in scheduling, sustainable curriculum pathways and the use of DODEA's Virtual High School would fill in the gaps. He said it needs the above-school level positions because DODEA headquarters "performs both many district-level and all 'state-level' functions as an education agency."

McCarter said teachers have already been let go, so DODEA is aware of what will have to be sacrificed. He accused DODEA of not being forthcoming.

"DODEA parents deserve to know what's happening here," he said.

"They say that they're going to use [the money saved from the cuts] for 'education priorities.' If that's these above-school level positions, they're not helping, and if it's the multimillion-dollar contracts that they're doing for professional development, teachers tell me it's not worth it. If they think those things are more important than direct services to kids, they're wrong."

Stars and Stripes attempted to contact DODEA principals in the Pacific and European regions. None was willing to talk on the record.

'It's really devastating'

Students and parents alike express frustration with the budget moves.

"It's really devastating," said Kubasaki High School, Okinawa, sophomore Nancy Gutzwiller, whose plans to take higher level math classes will likely be thrown off by losing calculus BC next year.

A lot of classes have been increased in size, so it's less one-on-one time with the teachers, and because of less teachers, they're offering less classes. They're taking away a lot of higher level classes. So, it's just becoming this more diluted, lower level pool.

Gutzwiller said higher level classes generally have fewer students in them, which has what those students need to excel. She said it was counterproductive to take those classes away because of low class sizes.

Gutzwiller's mother, Laura Gutzwiller, chairwoman of the Kubasaki School Advisory Committee, said DODEA is delivering the bare minimum as far as education for its students.

SEE CUTS ON PAGE 5

MILITARY

Deadline looms for transferring GI Bill benefits

By SCOTT WYLAND
Stars and Stripes

Starting next month, some mid-career and senior servicemembers will be unable to transfer their Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to family members.

New rules the Pentagon put in place last summer take effect July 12, limiting the option to transfer the benefit to troops who have served at least six years, but not more than 16, and who commit to serve an additional four years.

The date next month also marks the end of a policy exception the Pentagon announced in January to allow troops with at least 10 years of service, but who were ineligible to reenlist for an additional four, to transfer their benefits.

That exception applied to servicemembers affected by mandatory retirement, a career-ending medical problem or failure to gain timely promotion.

Under previous rules, such troops could still transfer the benefit if they committed to serve for the maximum amount allowed by service policy or statute, even if it was less than four years. The new rules were meant to do away with that provision immediately last July until the retroactive extension was announced earlier this year.

Servicemembers wounded in combat who have received Purple Heart medals are exempted from the rule changes.

In most cases, the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits cover the cost of in-state public university tuition plus a monthly housing stipend that can pay for a four-year degree or other educational programs for eligible troops, veterans and family members. Many private schools also offer grants to pay the difference between the cost of public and private school tuition.

There had not previously been a



JASON BORTZ/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Terri Stine, a work and family life specialist at the Fleet and Family Support Center on board Naval Air Station Pensacola, discusses educational benefits and job opportunities with a group of spouses and active duty personnel June 18. New rules for transferring GI Bill education benefits go into effect July 12.

restriction on when servicemembers could transfer education benefits to their family members once they had served six years.

When veterans' advocates criticized the new cap at 16 years, military officials said the transfers were intended as a retention tool

and not a benefit to careerists.

Earlier this month, during debate of the annual defense authorization bill, the House Armed Services Committee unanimously approved a provision that would allow continued eligibility for senior servicemembers to trans-

fer the benefits to their family members.

The measure must still gain the backing of the full House and Senate before it becomes law.

Stars and Stripes reporter Chad Garland contributed to this report. wyland.scott@stripes
Twitter: @wylandstripes

Cuts: Schools overseas do not have boards to represent parents' interests

FROM PAGE 4

"I believe our kids are given the money to have a great experience and somehow it is not happening, and that is thoroughly disappointing," Gutzwiller said.

"It's really a shame that they're cutting teachers," Kubasaki sophomore C.J. Czepl said. "There's going to be less classes as a result. They're going to put us in the virtual school."

Czepl said he doesn't have a good history with DODEA's virtual school classes.

"They are not a good replacement for the normal classes because you don't get the same interaction with the teachers and students that you normally would, and still you don't get the same sort of speech and thoughts and listening that you would in group activities," he said. "I don't want them to push more of that, because if we have to do that, then no one is really going to learn as well as they would in a normal classroom, so that is not good news."

Czepl's mother, Meredith Czepl, was quick to jump in.

"The online Spanish course he's had to take this year has probably stolen our joy for the entire year," she said. "I can't even understand the misery this class has brought to our entire family. I don't ever want him to take another DODEA virtual school course again."

Meredith Czepl said the workload for the class was ridiculous, the audio was often poor and the platform was not supported by computers at Kubasaki so her son could not work on it at school during free study periods.

"It really has caused a lot of stress in our family knowing that he might not get the education he could have if we were stationed anywhere else back in the States,"



Stars and Stripes

The Department of Defense Education Activity on Jan. 4 announced its plan to tweak staffing standards, consolidate classes with low attendance and shed more than 300 "excess" positions.

Meredith Czepl said. "I just want it to be equal."

Jay Woolston, a retired Navy submarine officer and father of three children who will attend Lakenheath High School in the United Kingdom next year, said he hasn't received any information from the school on which programs or classes may be going away next year.

"It would be nice if DODEA was more

transparent or promote the reductions in a way that we understand why it's being done and what we're going to gain out of it or what we're going to lose out of it," Woolston said.

"Are we going to have larger class sizes? Which sports or after-school clubs are going to be reduced or eliminated?"

Kubasaki teacher and coach Michael Hogen said the problem boils down to

"The online Spanish course he's had to take this year has probably stolen our joy for the entire year. ... I don't ever want him to take another DODEA virtual school course again."

Meredith Czepl
mother of sophomore C.J. Czepl

the fact that schools overseas do not have school boards and therefore parents have no representation locally to advocate for their best interests.

"We don't have a school board — like, normally, stateside you have a school board — and I would want to minimize decisions that unelected bureaucrats are making as much as possible," Hogen said.

"I'm not exactly sure of the dynamic of what's going on with the budget. I just know that since our clientele is Camp Foster, there should be some sort of body that's helping make decisions," he said. "If there's an allocated number of funds, let's go and have them have a piece of the say on what happens instead of people that are in (Washington) D.C. or maybe even local but not here at the school. It affects our school. This is our clientele. At least give them a little bit of a voice."

burke.matt@stripes.com
suan.jennifer@stripes.com

MILITARY



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER B. DENNIS/Stars and Stripes

Dewey R. Christopher, center, cuts the ribbon outside the Professional Development Center at RAF Mildenhall, which was renamed after him Friday. Looking on, from left, are Maj. Jamie Gegg, Chief Master Sgt. Kristina L. Rogers, Master Sgt. Curtis Brown and Col. S. Troy Pananon.

Mildenhall honors WWII vet with dedication of building

BY CHRISTOPHER DENNIS
Stars and Stripes

RAF MILDENHALL, England — Days shy of his 96th birthday, Oklahoma native Dewey R. Christopher was honored for his World War II service as a crew chief working on B-17 Flying Fortress bombers as Air Force officials at RAF Mildenhall named a building after him.

Christopher cut a ceremonial red ribbon outside Mildenhall's Professional Development Center, which now bears his name, as Col. S. Troy Pananon, commander of the 100th Air Refueling Wing, called the former master sergeant an inspiration to young airmen and praised his exemplary service.

"To hear ... him recount what he went through during those days is just awe-inspiring," Pananon said at the dedication ceremony Friday. "It's a bit of motivation, a bit of inspiration, and reminds us of what excellence can be for our nation."

Christopher was honored for his behind-the-scenes contributions to the allied war effort and the community around RAF Thorpe Abbots in Norfolk, England, where he helped keep the B-17s of the 100th Bombardment Group mission-ready.

"We could have recognized a hero that we all know, but we really wanted to focus on someone that we don't know but should," Chief Master Sgt. Kristina L. Rogers said at the ceremony.

The 100th Bombardment Group flew 8,630 missions and lost 732 airmen and 177 aircraft in the 22 months between its first combat mission on June 25, 1943, and its



Christopher, left, and Fred Duffield talk while looking over a 1945 Ford GPW at RAF Mildenhall on Friday.

last on April 20, 1945, earning it the nickname, the "Bloody Hundredth." Christopher said in interviews prior to being honored at Mildenhall that he never lost an aircraft and that one of the planes he worked on flew more than 60 consecutive missions without a maintenance report, "which meant there weren't any discrepancies on my airplane."

Christopher had recently finished high school and was struggling to find work when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941. He joined the Army Air Forces, hoping to become a pilot. But after an eye injury prevented him from achieving that dream, he put his mechanical skills to use and began working as a maintenance crew chief on B-17s.

In addition to having a building named after him, Christopher

was given a cake to mark his 96th birthday on Sunday. The scores of civilians and servicemembers at the dedication ceremony, some of them less than a quarter of Christopher's age, sang a rousing version of "Happy Birthday" to the former master sergeant.

"I've worked with some great people and they're not with us anymore, but they're remembered," Christopher said in a short speech. "And I'll always remember the reception I get when I come to Mildenhall."

The newly christened Dewey R. Christopher Professional Development Center at RAF Mildenhall provides airmen with resources and tools to develop job skills. It also conducts courses for airmen coming to RAF Mildenhall as their first duty station.

dennis.christopher@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @chrisdennis

Shanahan didn't reveal domestic fight before confirmation as deputy

BY TOM VANDEN BROOK
AND KEVIN JOHNSON
USA Today

WASHINGTON — As he underwent confirmation for the Pentagon's second-highest position in 2017, acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan told lawmakers he was "aware of no incidents reflecting adversely" on his ability to do his job and had "never been party to any civil litigation."

But at the time, he had only recently emerged from a contentious, yearslong divorce, which is a civil court matter. His ex-wife had accused him in divorce filings and police records of punching her during a violent domestic battle in 2010.

Shanahan has denied striking her and accused her of being the aggressor, saying she punched him.

Shanahan said Thursday in a statement to USA Today that he "complied fully" with an FBI background check before his confirmation as deputy secretary. As part of the process, he submitted a June 2017 letter to Sen. John McCain, then chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, that addressed a variety of issues, including the questions about civil litigation and any adverse history. "In June 2017, I did not believe that these incidents would adversely impact my ability to serve in the position of deputy secretary of Defense and I do not believe that to be the case today," Shanahan said in the statement to USA Today.

He stepped down as acting secretary on Sunday after coming under scrutiny for the violent encounter and was replaced by Army Secretary Mark Esper.

Shanahan's resignation as acting secretary renewed questions about the Trump administration's process of vetting nominees for sensitive posts. President Donald Trump said Tuesday that he had been unaware of the incident in Shanahan's background until the previous day but defended the handling of his nomination.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., an Armed Services Committee member, said questions about the 2017 letter from Shanahan to the committee "ought to be considered seriously as part of an evaluation of the overall vetting process, which failed so clearly in Shanahan's case and many other nominees reviewed by the White House."

"I'm still considering the best route, but I will be pushing for a strong, effective and permanent secretary of defense to investigate this."

Sarah Penh, a spokeswoman for Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., said he was "deeply troubled" by the allegations by Shanahan's former wife and "believes (the committee) should have been made aware of them before the 2017 vote."

Blumenthal and Kaine were among Senate Democrats who

'In June 2017, I did not believe that these incidents would adversely impact my ability to serve in the position of deputy secretary of Defense and I do not believe that to be the case today.'

Pat Shanahan
former acting defense secretary

voted en masse for Shanahan, who was confirmed 92-7.

Trump announced June 18 that Shanahan had resigned and had withdrawn from consideration to be his permanent defense chief, throwing the top ranks of the military into transition as it prepared for a possible confrontation with Iran. The move came about an hour after USA Today revealed that the FBI had been examining the fight between Shanahan and his then-wife, who now goes by the name Kimberley Jorgenson.

The episode came as a surprise to lawmakers and staff members on the Armed Services Committee, who said they were concerned that Shanahan failed to fully advise them of a matter they said could be relevant to his leadership of the military both when Trump nominated him to be acting defense chief in 2017 and this year, when Trump announced he would nominate Shanahan to be his permanent defense secretary.

The 2017 letter to McCain, who was a Republican from Arizona, was sent during a background review by the committee. The review included professional, financial and personal information required of all nominees.

"I have never been a party to any civil litigation," Shanahan wrote. "I am aware of no incidents reflecting adversely upon my suitability to serve in the position for which I have been nominated."

Attorney Mark Zaid, who specializes in national security matters, said he wouldn't have advised one of his clients to write such a letter.

"There's no way you can say you've been accused of horrible things, domestic abuse, even if it's not true," said Zaid, who has represented USA Today in a lawsuit seeking access to federal records. "How do you not say there's a suitability issue?"

"This was something that he could have turned into a favorable aspect in support of his nomination, the sensitivity he has, and understanding what it's like to be a victim and have a family problem. But to deny that it's a suitability issue is just wrong."

MIDEAST



KEYPHIER STROMBECK/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The Boxer Amphibious Ready Group and 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit arrived in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations on Monday, relieving the Kearsarge ARG and 22nd MEU.

USS Boxer arrives in 5th Fleet waters amid tensions with Iran

By JOSHUA KARSTEN
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — Thousands of sailors and Marines sailed into 5th Fleet waters Monday as an amphibious assault group led by the USS Boxer deployed to the region, where tensions are flaring between the U.S. and Iran.

The Boxer, which carries the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit and a combat helicopter squadron, was accompanied by the amphibious transport dock USS John P. Murtha and the amphibious dock landing ship USS Harpers Ferry, the Navy said in a statement.

The group replaced another led by the USS Kearsarge, the statement said. The Kearsarge group has been in 5th Fleet waters since April.

Although the 5th Fleet declined comment on what the Boxer would be doing in relation to Iran, the Boxer's air squadron commander, Capt. Brad Arthur, said in a statement that the group was "prepared to respond to any crises across the range of military operations."

"Our training and preparation to enter the 5th Fleet area of operations has all been designed to ensure we can be ready where it matters, when it matters," said Col. Fridrik Fridriksson, the group's Marine unit commander.

The Boxer group left San Diego on May 1 and has operated in the Pacific and Indian oceans, the Navy statement said. The 5th Fleet area of responsibility includes much of the Middle East.

Already tense relations between Iran and the U.S. worsened last week when a U.S. surveillance drone was shot down by the Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The Iranians said the unmanned RQ-4 Global Hawk aircraft had entered its airspace, but the U.S. has insisted the attack occurred when the drone was flying over international waters.

The U.S. was poised to launch a retaliatory strike but pulled back beforehand. President Donald Trump said Friday in a television interview that he canceled the strikes after being told 150 people could die.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived in Saudi Arabia on

Sunday for talks with Saudi royals about a global coalition against Iran. The Associated Press reported Monday. Pompeo was also scheduled to visit the United Arab Emirates, according to the AP.

"We'll be talking with them about how to make sure that we are all strategically aligned and how we can build out a global coalition, a coalition not only throughout the Gulf states, but in Asia and in Europe, that understands this challenge as it is prepared to push back against the world's largest state sponsor of terror," Pompeo said about Iran to reporters in Washington prior to his departure, according to the AP.

Meanwhile, Iranian naval commander Rear Adm. Hossein Khanzadi said Monday that Iranian forces wouldn't hesitate to shoot down more U.S. surveillance drones.

A "crushing response can always be repeated, and the enemy knows it," Khanzadi said, according to Iran's Tasnim news agency.

karsten.joshua@stripes.com
Twitter: @joshua_karsten

US sets sanctions on Iran's supreme leader, associates

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump signed an executive order Monday targeting Iran's supreme leader and his associates with financial sanctions, the latest action the U.S. has taken to discourage Tehran from developing nuclear weapons and supporting militant groups.

The sanctions follow Iran's downing of a more than \$100 million U.S. surveillance drone over the Strait of Hormuz that has ratcheted up tensions. Trump pulled back from the brink of retaliatory military strikes on Iran last week but is continuing his pressure campaign.

The targets of the new sanctions include senior military figures in Iran, blocking their access to any financial assets under U.S. jurisdiction.

"These measures represent a strong and proportionate response to Iran's increasingly provocative actions," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.

"We will continue to increase pressure on Tehran until the regime abandons its dangerous activities and its aspirations, including the pursuit of nuclear weapons, increased enrichment of uranium, development of ballistic missiles, engagement and support for terrorism, fueling of foreign conflicts and belligerent acts directed against the United States and its allies."

The sanctions work to deny Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and his close aides access to money and support.



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump has signed an order imposing sanctions on Iran's supreme leader and others after Iran shot down a U.S. drone last week.

Iran's naval commander has warned that Iranian forces would not hesitate to act again and shoot down more U.S. surveillance drones that violate Iranian airspace. The U.S. said the drone was flying over international waters.

"We confidently say that the crushing response can always be repeated, and the enemy knows it," Rear Adm. Hossein Khanzadi was quoted as saying by the semi-official Tasnim news agency.

Tensions have been escalating since Trump last year withdrew the U.S. from a global nuclear deal with Iran and reimposed economic sanctions.

Iran has decimated the U.S. sanctions, which essentially bar Iran from selling its oil internationally, as "economic terrorism."

Earlier, Trump suggested that the U.S. should not protect ships in the strategic Strait of Hormuz without compensation from other countries.

US businesses told to prepare for Iranian hacks after US cyberattack

By JOSEPH MARKS
The Washington Post

U.S. businesses should get ready for a barrage of digital retaliation from Iran after the Trump administration launched a cyberattack against the Islamic Republic's rocket and missile launching systems, current and former U.S. government officials said this past weekend.

Iranian hackers are already targeting U.S. companies with specialized malicious software designed to wipe the contents of their computer networks rather than to simply steal their data, Chris Krebs, director of the Homeland Security Department's cybersecurity division, warned in a Saturday email.

Cybersecurity companies — which were already clocking a dramatic increase in Iranian hacking during the past few

weeks — began warning over the weekend that the nation could increase its attacks and make them far more destructive.

Those retaliatory strikes are likely to hit a far broader range of targets than the U.S. cyberstrikes, which Washington Post reporter Ellen Nakashima reported were limited to military systems and entailed weeks of preparation.

"They might choose a nonmilitary target where they can have a greater effect," John Hultquist, director of intelligence and analysis at the cybersecurity firm FireEye, said.

"They're going to go for the soft underbelly," he said. "In the past, they've been our financial sector. They've also demonstrated interest in everything from energy to transportation to several other sectors."

In addition to hacks that wipe data from computers, the Irani-

ans might launch ransomware attacks that lock up computers until the victim pays a fine, or denial of service attacks that render websites and digital tools unusable, Hultquist said.

The U.S. cyberstrike, which came Thursday in response to Iran downing a U.S. surveillance drone, was personally ordered by President Donald Trump and carried out by U.S. Cyber Command, Nakashima reported. It comes after national security adviser John Bolton warned this month the administration would be more aggressive about launching offensive hacking operations.

The cyberattack, which was first reported by Yahoo News, may also have been in lieu of a physical offensive Trump claimed he nearly approved late last week but backed off of after learning as many as 150 people might be killed.

Trump imposed new sanctions on Iran today.

Iran's minister for information and communication technology, Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi, said on Twitter on Monday the cyberattacks weren't successful, Reuters reported.

Cyber pros nearly unanimously predicted Iran would respond to the cyberattack with hacks of its own. But they were split on whether the Trump administration made the right call by launching a cyberattack.

On the plus side, a cyberattack that doesn't kill anyone is clearly a better outcome than a military strike with many casualties, Chris Painter, former State Department cybercoordinator during the Obama administration, said.

It was also good the attack appears not to have caused any collateral damage to Iranian ci-

vilians and didn't compromise the computers of any other countries, which could complicate diplomatic relations, Painter said.

He cautioned, however, that U.S. officials should also be communicating with Iran so officials there have a clear understanding of why the United States launched the attack and how they can prevent more cyberoffensives.

"We have to worry about escalation but not be so concerned about escalation that we don't do anything, because that in itself leads to escalation on the other side," he said.

On the other hand, the Trump administration could have reduced the likelihood of retaliatory cyberattacks by instead opting for a smaller conventional attack that didn't risk casualties, Michael Morell, a former acting CIA director, said in an email.

NATION

Sanders, liberals offer relief for student debt

By LAURIE KELLMAN
and ELANA SCHOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Days before the first Democratic presidential debates, Sen. Bernie Sanders and House progressives came out with legislation to cancel all student debt, going farther than a signature proposal by Sen. Elizabeth Warren as the two jockey for support from the party's liberal base.

By canceling all student loans, Sanders says the proposal would address an economic burden for 45 million Americans. The key difference is that Warren's plan considers the income of the borrowers, canceling \$50,000 in debt for those earning less than \$100,000 per year and affecting an estimated 42 million people in the U.S.

Questions face both candidates about how to pay for all of that plus their proposals for free tuition at public colleges and universities. But the battling ideas highlight the rivalry between senators who have made fighting economic inequality the cornerstones of their 2020 presidential campaigns.

Sanders vowed at a Monday news conference that his plan "completely eliminates

student debt in this country and the absurdity of sentencing an entire generation, the millennial generation, to a lifetime of debt for the crime of doing the right thing. And that is going out and getting a higher education."

He appeared alongside the proposal's House sponsors, Reps. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., and Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., with American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten also in attendance.

His bill and Warren's plan are part of their broader appeal to liberal voters on issues such as health care, technology and education.

That appeal is likely to be fleshed out this week during the first Democratic debates. Twenty candidates are set for the showdown, with Warren part of the lineup on Wednesday and Sanders appearing a day later. The events come as Warren appears to be cutting into Sanders' support from the left.

Sanders' effort at one-upmanship on student loans, named the College For All Act, would cancel \$1.6 trillion of debt and save the average borrower about \$3,000 a year, according to materials obtained by The Associated Press. The result would be a stimulus that allows millennials in particular to invest in homes and cars that they



EMMA SWISLOW/Stars and Stripes

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-VT., announces his proposal for student debt forgiveness, the College For All Act, on Monday at the U.S. Capitol.

wouldn't otherwise be able to afford.

It would cost \$2.2 billion and be paid for — and then some — by a series of taxes on such things as stock trades, bonds and derivatives, according to the proposal.

The universal debt relief is designed partly around the idea that it would mostly benefit Americans who can't afford college tuition without loans, according to a senior Democratic aide who spoke on condition of anonymity because the legislation wasn't yet public.

Warren's plan, which she has suggested in published reports will be introduced as legislation, would be paid for by imposing a 2% fee on fortunes greater than \$50 million. Warren projects the levy would raise \$2.75 trillion over 10 years, enough to pay for a universal child care plan, free tuition at public colleges and universities, and student loan debt forgiveness for an estimated 42 million Americans — with revenue left over. Critics say top earners would find ways around such penalties.

Poll: Democratic voters not yet fully tuned in

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI
and HANNAH FINGERHUT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly two dozen Democratic presidential candidates have crisscrossed the country for six months selling their vision for the United States. But, on the eve of the first debates in the campaign, a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows most Democratic voters haven't fully tuned in.

Only 22% of Democratic registered to vote say they know a lot about the candidates' positions, while 62% say they know a little. Only 35% say they're paying close attention to the campaign, with almost two-thirds saying they're paying some or no attention.

"It's kind of a blur," said Maggie Banks, 32, of suburban Denver, who has two young children and only has a chance to glean a few details about the race while listening to NPR during her commute.

Banks said she has only a "vague" idea of who's running and didn't realize her state's senior senator, Michael Bennet, or former governor, John Hickenlooper, were in the race.

Voters like Banks comprise the vast

majority of the Democratic electorate, implying there's great potential for change in what's essentially been a static race to date. Former Vice President Joe Biden holds a solid but not dominant polling lead, followed by some combination of Sens. Bernie Sanders, of Vermont; Elizabeth Warren, of Massachusetts; and Kamala Harris, of California, and Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Ind. Behind them are a wide range of contenders from Senate veterans like Amy Klobuchar, of Minnesota, to lesser-known candidates like internet entrepreneur Andrew Yang.

The first big opportunity for candidates to break out of that muddle comes with the two nights of debates this week beginning Wednesday. Two groups of 10 candidates will get a chance to take their messages directly to a national prime time audience from the stage in Miami.

The Democratic field is enormous and unprecedentedly diverse. It features several women, multiple candidates of African and Asian descent, one Latino and a gay man, Buttigieg, who at age 37 is less than half as old as the front-runner, Biden.

But majorities of Democrats say those characteristics make no difference to their level of enthusiasm about a presidential candidate. Four in 10 Democratic voters

said they would be more excited about voting for a woman for president, and 36% said the same of a younger candidate. Only about a quarter were more excited at the idea of supporting a candidate who is black or Latino, while roughly 2 in 10 said they'd be more excited to support an Asian candidate or lesbian, gay or bisexual candidate.

What Democrats want the most is experience in elected office, with 73% citing that as a quality they're looking for in a presidential candidate.

Benji Grajeda, 50, of Santa Ana, Calif., was once excited at the idea that Hillary Clinton could become the first female president. Now he just wants stability.

"I don't think it matters, gender," said Grajeda, instead citing experience in office as his top priority because "President Donald Trump has no experience."

"I never really thought about it until he won — he's just not qualified," Grajeda said.

There's a large appetite for the campaign among Democratic voters, 79% of whom say they're interested in the 2020 race. Among Republicans, 70% reported interest. But only about 3 in 10 voters overall say they're paying close attention more than seven months before the first votes are cast in the Iowa caucuses.

O'Rourke: 'War tax' could fund vets health care

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke is pledging to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and help create a federal health care fund to cover the costs of caring for those who serve in future wars by taxing those who don't.

The former Texas congressman unveiled his proposal Monday before attending a veterans' roundtable in Tampa, Fla., ahead of the first Democratic presidential debate in Miami on Wednesday.

The new health care fund would be paid for using a "war tax," ensuring Americans not serving share "some of the cost of going to war according to their means."

The proposal pledges to improve the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system and provide immigrant veterans a "pathway to citizenship."

O'Rourke wants to expand "reverse boot camps" to better prepare veterans for life after the military.

NEW IN PACIFIC?

To get your free Stars and Stripes Welcome to the Pacific magazine.
Contact us at CustomerHelp@stripes.com

Local culture and customs • Language • Food
Public transportation • and more!



NATION

Report: Hostage families want 'hard truths'

By ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States must do a better job communicating with families of American hostages held overseas, including telling “hard truths” to loved ones about the chances for rescue and clarifying the government’s position on ransom payments to captors, according to a new report.

The report also says hostages who do make it home need more support, including for financial and mental health problems, and that Americans unlawfully detained by foreign governments should get the same level of attention from the U.S. as hostages held by terrorist groups.

The study from the James W. Foley Legacy Foundation is the first nongovernment effort to measure the successes and shortcomings of changes to the hostage recovery process enacted by the Obama administration and left in place by President Donald Trump. The foundation is named for James Foley, a journalist from New Hampshire who was kidnapped in Syria in 2012 and killed by Islamic State militants two years later.

The 2015 actions included the creation of an FBI-led intra-government fusion cell that works full time on hostage cases and the appointment of a State Department presidential envoy to handle diplomatic negotiations.

The changes were meant to



Diane Foley, mother of slain journalist James Foley, speaks to The Associated Press in Washington on Wednesday.

MANUEL BALCE CENETIA/AP

streamline the hostage recovery process after complaints from American families that the government had failed to prioritize the rescue of their loved ones and communicate effectively with them.

The report — based on interviews with 27 people connected to hostage cases, including former hostages themselves and loved ones — makes clear that those changes have led in some instances to better interactions between government officials

and hostage families but that challenges remain.

Among its main recommendations is that the U.S. should communicate more honestly and regularly with hostage families, and be straightforward about capabilities and limitations in recovery efforts as well as the outcome of the case.

“Families asserted that they want to be spoken to directly and not placated; to be told hard truths and not how to feel,” the report says.

‘Families asserted that they want to be spoken to directly and not placated; to be told hard truths and not how to feel.’

James W. Foley Legacy Foundation

One anonymous family member is quoted in the report as saying “the U.S. government should not make assumptions on what I can and cannot handle.”

The report also suggested that the U.S. improve its communications of laws and policies to families, particularly the government’s stance on ransom payments to captors. The Obama administration in 2015 reaffirmed its position that while the government would not make ransom payments, it would also not prosecute families who did so and would support families attempting to negotiate their loved ones’ releases.

“Nonetheless, given the complexity revolving around negotiations and private payments of ransoms, confusion among hostage families persists,” the report states.

Left unclear for instance, is how far immunity from prosecution extends and whether friends and acquaintances could be prosecuted for contributing to a ransom fund.

The report also cites a disparity in treatment given to hostages and to Americans who are wrongfully detained by foreign governments.

The 2015 actions were meant to cover hostages — people held by an individual or group looking to extract concessions as a condition of release — “but only optionally and partially” apply to cases in which an American is held overseas and is acknowledged to be detained by a foreign government, according to the report.

“The U.S. government, and more importantly the State Department, must ensure that cases in the second category also benefit from the June 2015 reforms,” the report says. “This includes an increase in information sharing and U.S. government support for families, both foreign and domestic.”

The report acknowledges that additional support for the thousands of Americans held by a foreign government would require additional personnel and resources.

Among those who could stand to benefit is Paul Whelan, a Michigan man held in Russia on espionage charges that he and his family say are baseless. His attorney told The Associated Press this month that he would like to see his client receive support similar to what hostages receive.

Member of armed civilian border group charged with impersonation

Associated Press

GUTHRIE, Okla. — A man who has been a spokesman for a small group of armed civilians patrolling the U.S.-Mexico border was charged with impersonating a U.S. officer or employee.

An indictment returned Wednesday by a grand jury in New Mexico charged James Christopher Benvie, 44, of Albany, Minn., with two counts of false personation of a U.S. officer or employee, federal prosecutors said in a news release Friday. He faces up to three years in prison if convicted.

The news release from prosecutors does not provide details

on the allegations, including what kind of officer or employee Benvie is accused of impersonating. It says the alleged offenses were committed in Dona Ana County, N.M., on April 15 and 17. The county is along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Benvie posted Facebook live videos on both April 15 and April 17 of encounters with people crossing the border.

Benvie made an initial appearance in federal court Friday in Oklahoma after the FBI arrested him in Guthrie, Okla., prosecutors said. Prosecutors said he would remain jailed until a detention hearing set for Tuesday in Oklahoma. It was unclear if he had an

attorney.

Prosecutors said he’ll be transported to New Mexico for prosecution.

Benvie was a spokesman for a group called the United Constitutional Patriots before becoming a spokesman for a splinter group called the Guardian Patriots.

Armed civilian groups have been an intermittent presence on the border for years, portraying themselves as auxiliaries to the Border Patrol and operating in areas where agents are not stationed. As the videos show, U.S. authorities keep them at arm’s length while also responding to reports of people entering the country illegally.



The Student Activity Fund of NAF Atsugi’s Shirley Lanham Elementary School received a \$250 Exchange Gift Card as the prize recipient of the 2019 Stars and Stripes Pacific’s Month of the Military Child campaign. The school submitted the most Month of the Military Child articles during this year’s event.

Thank you for sponsoring this campaign.



LAKELAND
UNIVERSITY JAPAN

STARS AND STRIPES®
www.stripes.com

Have a chance to win great reward rewards at
www.stripes.com/rewards.

Sheriff: Woman, 3 kids found dead in Texas

Associated Press

MISSION, Texas — A sheriff in South Texas says Border Patrol agents discovered the bodies of four people, including three children, within a wildlife management area near the border.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Eddie

Guerra told the McAllen Monitor that the dead appeared to be two infants, a toddler and a woman in her early 20s. The sheriff told the newspaper that they may have been dead for a few days by the time they were discovered Sunday in Las Palomas Wildlife Management area near the Rio

Grande River.

The newspaper reported that the area is known locally as El Rincon del Diablo, or the Devil’s Corner, and is often used for illegal border crossings.

The sheriff said on Twitter that the FBI will investigate the deaths.

NATION

Study contradicts owner's claims on '04 Gulf oil spill

BY JANET MCCONNAUGHEY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A new federally led study of oil seeping from a platform toppled off Louisiana's coast 14½ years ago found releases lower than other recent estimates but contradicts the well owner's assertions about the amount and source of oil.

Oil and gas have been leaking into the Gulf of Mexico since a subsea mudslide caused by Hurricane Ivan on Sept. 15, 2004, knocked over a Taylor Energy Co. production platform, which dragged and broke a bundle of well pipes. Taylor capped nine wells but said it couldn't cap 16.

The company contends oil sheens on the water's surface indicate there's only a dribble of 2.4 to 4 gallons of oil and gas a day. Taylor Energy, which is fighting a federal order to stop the seepage, also says any oil rising from the site is from oil-soaked sediment and any gas is produced by living organisms.

"The results of this study contradict these conclusions," said the report paid for by the federal Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, which oversees offshore drilling, and written by two National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientists and one from Florida State University.

Taylor said in an emailed statement that it wants verifiable scientific data about the leak and a

scientifically and environmentally sound solution. The company has said remaining pipes are buried under so much oily and treacherous silt that stopping any leaks would do more environmental damage than letting them be.

No coastal environmental damage has been reported from the ongoing seepage, unlike the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, an outside scientist said. The BP spill oiled at least 400 square miles of sea floor and 1,300 miles of shoreline from Texas to Florida, killing thousands of birds and contributing to dolphin deaths for years.

The study's authors figure that the total released each day from the Taylor site could have been as much as 4,500 gallons. They used sonar and a newly developed "bubblometer" to measure oil and gas bubbles rising through the water.

These are based on direct measurements, while previous estimates have relied on satellite and remote sensing of the sheen of oil resulting from the seep, Chris Taylor, of NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science in Beaufort, N.C., said Friday.

The figure is a conservative one, the report said.

Andrew Mason, of the NOAA centers' office in Silver Spring, Md., said, "These are not final definitive government estimates," noting that they will figure in the government's official estimate after additional study.

The researchers said the oil

cannot be from sediment because it's only mildly biodegraded.

The team's methods look reasonable, said Ed Overton, a professor of environmental studies at Louisiana State University who was not part of the study.

"There are no standard methods for this type of work," because the amounts of oil involved are relatively small, he said.

NOAA reported two possible ranges: one using sonar from a boat and an underwater robot; the other using their bubblometer — a box with a video camera to get pictures of the bubbles, topped by a funnel to collect the oil and gas.

The sonar showed releases of 378 to 1,974 gallons a day; the bubblometer data indicated 798 to 4,536 gallons daily.

The extent of the pollution has been an issue since environmentalists investigating the 2010 BP oil spill noticed a persistent sheen outside the heavily oiled area.

A 2015 investigation by The Associated Press revealed evidence that the leak was worse than the company or government had publicly reported. Afterward, the Coast Guard provided a new leak estimate about 20 times larger than the company's at the time.

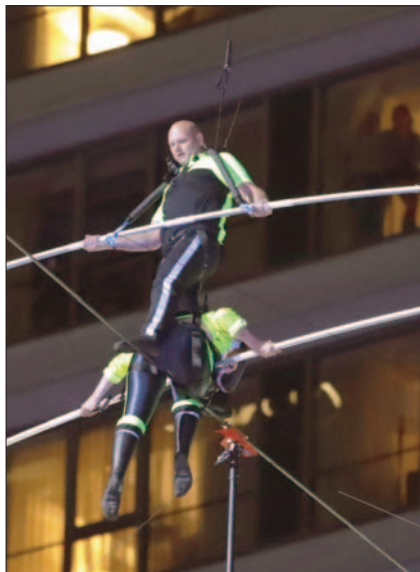
The Coast Guard said in mid-May that the recurrent sheen about 11 miles from New Orleans had become "barely visible" since a containment system was installed several weeks earlier.

Court papers said the system had captured more than 30,000 gallons of oil over 30 days. That works out to a daily amount in the middle of the sonar estimate and at the low end of the bubblometer estimate, the new report said.

A federal expert's report in Taylor Energy's lawsuit put the figure at 10,500 to 29,400 gallons a day. That could be interpreted to mean more oil may have leaked there since 2004 than the estimated 130 million gallons from the BP gusher in 2010.

Mason said the new report can't be used to extrapolate the total spilled from the Taylor site.

Overton, of LSU, said unlike the Deepwater Horizon, this is a slow, small seep that hasn't oiled wildlife or beaches. "Whatever the volume ... it doesn't mean it piles up so that you've got a Gulf full of oil," he said.



JASON SZENES/AP

Aerialist Nik Wallenda, top, steps over his sister Lijana as they walk on a high wire above Times Square in New York on Sunday.

Wallenda 'freaked' when pole slipped over Times Square

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nik Wallenda says he "freaked" out when his balancing pole slipped during a high-wire walk with his sister above New York's Times Square.

Nik and Lijana Wallenda spoke Monday on ABC's "Good Morning America," just hours after their harrowing feat.

Nik Wallenda said the scare occurred as his sister knelt so he could step over her while they crossed paths 25 stories above the pavement.

"My pole started to slide down," he said, adding that he briefly lost his grip. "It freaked me out for a second" — though his voice and facial expression remained outwardly calm during riveting

close-ups shown on television.

Lijana Wallenda was performing with him for the first time since she had a near-fatal fall in 2017.

She conceded that she felt "a little shaky in the legs" for the first 20 feet.

But "it becomes home," she said. "This is what I've done my whole life ... It's peaceful."

Lijana Wallenda said she could have quit wire walking after her traumatic fall but "I wouldn't let that fear consume me."

She is "living proof" that anybody can step out of their comfort zone and overcome their own fears, her brother said.

After conquering Times Square, Nik Wallenda said he's got his eye on an "active volcano."



AP

The wake of a supply vessel crosses an oil sheen drifting from the site of the former Taylor Energy oil rig off the coast of Louisiana in March 2015. A new study contradicts Taylor's claims about the spill.

5 dead after Calif. golf course dispute sparks shooting, fire

Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — A third body has been found in the rubble of a burned-out mobile home in California, bringing to five the number of dead in a shooting and fire that began during an argument at a golf course, authorities said.

Santa Maria police identified Kurt Bracke, 70, and Richard Hanen, 78, as the victims who were fatally shot. Residents told The Santa Maria Times there had been a long-standing feud between the two men and the shooter that boiled over Friday at the golf course of Casa Grande Mo-

bile Estates in Santa Maria, 140 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

"These three guys were threatening each other for a long time," Keith Castro said.

Responding to a report of shots fired at the mobile home park Friday morning, police found one man fatally shot inside the club-

house and another dead on grass nearby, the newspaper reported.

The gunman is believed to have fled to his mobile home, which then went up in flames after a small explosion. The blaze spread to nearby homes before it could be put out by firefighters, with ammunition exploding from the

gunman's mobile home.

Authorities initially found two bodies — one of which is believed to be the gunman's — in the rubble, but said Saturday an additional victim had been located. Their names will be released after the coroner's office confirms their identities.

NATION

Truck driver charged in motorcyclists' deaths

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, N.H. — A long-planned Blessing of the Bikes ceremony for motorcycle enthusiasts became a scene of mourning and reflection Sunday as about 400 people paid tribute to seven bikers killed in a devastating collision with a pickup truck.

The driver of the truck was charged Monday with seven counts of negligent homicide, authorities said.

Volodymyr Zhukovskyy, 23, was arrested Monday morning at his home in West Springfield, Mass., on a fugitive from justice charge related to Friday's crash, the New Hampshire attorney general's office said.

He was expected to make a court appearance on the charge Monday afternoon in Springfield.

A man who answered the phone at the home of Zhukovskyy's family and would identify himself only as his brother-in-law said Monday that the family is in shock and feeling the same pain as everyone else but couldn't say whether the driver was right or wrong.

Zhukovskyy's pickup truck towing a flatbed trailer collided with a group of 10 motorcycles Friday on a two-lane highway in the northern New Hampshire community of Randolph, investigators said.

The victims were members or supporters of the Marine Jar-Heads, a New England motorcycle club that includes Marines and their spouses, and ranged in age from 42 to 62.

"When they fall, we all fall," Laura Cardinale, vice president of the Manchester Motorcycle Club, said at the Blessing of the Bikes ceremony, adding that fellow bikers will support the families of those who died. "Those families, they're going to go through a lot now. They have a new world

ahead of them."

Blessing of the Bikes ceremonies are held in many locations as a way to give prayers for a safe season. Sunday's event, situated about an hour from the accident site, was expected to draw maybe 100 or 200 people before it was transformed by tragedy.

The Rev. Rich Baillargeon presided, blessing the bikes using a branch dipped in holy water as they filed by, and held a moment of silence and prayer for the victims. One biker got up to say a prayer but couldn't finish. The ceremony also included a bugle playing of taps.

Many of the bikers wore jeans and leather jackets with their club patches and rumbled in their Harley-Davidsons. The outdoor gathering took place on the property of a former church, with bikers parking in rows in the parking lot and on the grass on a warm, sunny day as vendors sold corn dogs, french fries, pizza, sausage and lemonade.

Gary and Sheila Judkins came from Sumner, Maine, in part because of the crash, saying being there was a way to feel connected to other riders.

"It's a positive thing for bikers. And if anything, bikers need something positive," Gary Judkins said.

Authorities identified the dead as Michael Perazzi, 62, of Contoocook, N.H.; Albert Mazza Jr., 59, of Lee, N.H.; Desma Oakes, 42, of Concord, N.H.; Aaron Perry, 45, of Farmington, N.H.; Daniel Pereira, 58, of Riverside, R.I.; and Jo-Ann and Edward Corr, both 58, of Lakeville, Mass.

One person injured in the wreck remained hospitalized in stable condition. Relatives of all but one of the victims could not be reached for comment or their numbers were not listed. The state attorney general's office



LISA RATHKE/AP

Motorcyclists participate in a "Blessing of the Bikes" ceremony in Columbia, N.H., on Sunday as bikers and military veterans were reeling from a crash Friday evening that killing seven riders.

said the Perazzi family had asked that reporters not contact them.

Mazza's family described the former Marine and father of two as a quiet self-starter who fell in love with motorcycles at an early age and always seemed to best anyone he competed against. When he got out of the Marines, he worked in the defense industry and then the construction business.

Along with bikes, relatives said Mazza was passionate about judo and hunting when he was growing up. In the past two decades, his father, Albert Mazza, said he had very little contact with his son partly because he lives in

Kenly, N.C.

"He was a young man who could do anything. I competed in all kinds of things in my life ... and everything he tried to do, he beat me in," Albert Mazza said.

"He was a natural at everything. ... He was a tough, young guy who didn't know how to quit. ... I was always proud of him and I always bragged on him because I knew he was a better man than I was."

Joseph Mazza, Albert Mazza Jr.'s uncle who lives in Haverhill, Mass., said he was still dealing with the accident and trying to comprehend how so many bikers died in one accident.

"The truck was coming in the opposite direction. It's hard to figure how he could hit 10 motorcycles without getting out of the way," Joseph Mazza said.

The tragedy left the close-knit motorcycle community in shock, with many remembering their own close calls on the road.

"Seven people. C'mon. It's senseless," said Bill Brown, 73, a Vietnam War veteran and motorcyclist who visited the accident scene Saturday to plant flags.

Zhukovskyy was not seriously hurt. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the crash.

Feds to probe 'quality' of repairs on plane in Hawaii skydiving crash

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Federal investigators will review repair and inspection records on the skydiving plane that became inverted before crashing shortly after takeoff on Oahu's North Shore, killing all 11 people on board in the deadliest civil aviation accident since 2011.

The same plane that crashed Friday in Hawaii sustained substantial damage to its tail section in a 2016 accident while carrying skydivers over Northern California.

Repairs were then made to get the plane back into service, National Transportation Safety Board officials said at a news conference Sunday.

"We will be looking at the qual-

ity of those repairs and whether it was inspected and whether it was airworthy," the NTSB's Jennifer Homendy said.

The plane was equipped to carry 15 people, she said.

"Weight and balance has a factor in the safety of these operations, and that's a calculation that needs to be made before a plane is operated," she said.

In the 2016 incident, the twin-engine plane stalled three times and spun repeatedly before the pilot managed to land it after the skydivers jumped out, the NTSB said in its investigative report. The 1967 twin turboprop plane was too heavy weighted toward the back, which was blamed on the pilot.



National Transportation Safety Board investigator Elliott Simpson briefs NTSB board member Jennifer Homendy on Sunday at the scene of the skydiving plane crash on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.

Charred debris from the plane remained on the field at Dillingham Airfield, and it could stay there for three or four days before

being removed to a secure location. The airport remains closed.

The NTSB will issue a preliminary report in about two weeks.

Man who assaulted classmate is out of jail

CONCORD, N.H. — A New Hampshire prep school graduate convicted of sexually assaulting a 15-year-old classmate has been released from jail.

Owen Labrie, 23, reported to Merrimack County's jail just after Christmas after a judge refused to shorten his sentence. He had been due to serve the remaining 10 months of his sentence but was released Monday for good behavior.

Labrie, of Tunbridge, Vt., was acquitted in 2015 of raping the female classmate as part of "Senior Salute," a game of sexual conquest, at St. Paul's School. But a jury found him guilty of misdemeanor sexual assault charges and endangering a child's welfare.

He was also convicted of using a computer to lure an underage student for sex. That requires him to register as a sex offender.

From The Associated Press

NATION

Da Vinci of dirt

This Los Angeles trucker's rolling masterpieces are inked with road grime and buried passion

By GUSTAVO ARELLANO
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — One day in 2016, as Arnulfo Gonzalez waited at a warehouse to pick up cargo, he stared at the filth caked on the back door of his box truck. After a moment of contemplation, he ran his finger on it.

The Mexican immigrant once had ambitions of becoming an artist. He had earned a degree in the subject from East Los Angeles College and taught ceramics workshops in Bell Gardens. He took his wife on date nights to drawing classes, where they used each other as subjects.

Gonzalez set aside those dreams and became a trucker in 2000 "because there was more money there," the father of two said. Besides an occasional notebook doodle, work and his family were his focus.

Until the day he realized that his canvases and paint had been there all along.

"It clicked," Gonzalez said.

By the time his load was ready, he had outlined a woman's face in the muck.

Dockworkers immediately offered praise. And so, every other week since, the short-haul driver has offered a new "painting" to commuters across Southern California, using only the dirt and grime that collects on his truck. His subjects include Jesus Christ, a giant jellyfish, a Thanksgiving spread, a horse with a flowing mane, a soulful eye and richly detailed reiners.

Often, Gonzalez, 48, answers his muse as he waits for cargo to get loaded. He likes to use classical music as a soundtrack — Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata is a favorite.

"It relaxes you and brings out creativity," Gonzalez said.

Truckers long have personalized their rigs.

In Pakistan and India, so-called jingle trucks feature calligraphy, beads, extravagantly colored arabesque designs or Hindu motifs. Japan's dekotora subculture celebrates trucks with ironworks and lights seemingly pulled from an anime. In Spain, artists persuaded truckers to let them paint contemporary works on containers as a way to protest the strictures of museums.

American truck art, on the other hand, historically has been staid: mud flap silhouettes, the trucker's name stenciled on the side doors or — in recent years — toys tied to grilles or hung on the back bumper or axle.

Lavishly adorned commercial trucks "are not part of our culture," said Max Heine, editorial director for Overdrive. Every year, the magazine hosts Pride & Polish, which it describes as the "premier truck beauty championship series in North America."

Heine said American trucker aesthetics tend to focus more on chrome parts, paint jobs meant to evoke classic Peterbilt and Kenworths, or a beat-up rusted look



PHOTOS BY IRFAN KHAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Above and below: Arnulfo Gonzalez washes artwork drawn by him from his truck at a wash place in Norwalk, Calif., on May 29.

known as "rat rod."

By those standards, Gonzalez's truck is humble.

Driving up and down L.A.'s eternally traffic-choked streets and freeways, the Hacienda Heights resident has an audience to dwarf any Arts District installation. It would be easy for onlookers to imagine that some wannabe street Rembrandt furively made the scenes on Gonzalez's vehicle — like a graffiti artist in the night.

Truckers inspire many stereotypes. Artistic soul is not one of them.

Cruz Palomares, 50, a fellow troquero from Paramount, likes to show other drivers a photo of his favorite Gonzalez piece: Santa Claus on a reindeer-drawn sleigh flying over a forest.

"The cabron has a gift!" Palomares said, referring to Gonzalez using a word common in Mexico that literally means "male goat" but can serve as both an insult and term of respect.

"The guys I show stay there with their mouths open. And then they say, 'Hey, your friend made a mistake to be a trucker!'"

Gonzalez tends to agree. But a man's got to make money.

"I don't see myself in this job forever," he said.

His voice trailed off as he stood in the parking lot of the Puente Hills Mall, ready to embark on his next "painting." He slipped on plastic gloves and opened a toolbox filled with paint brushes and other artist's materials.

"Who knows what can happen? At least, I want to graduate to a wall," he said.

But for now, grime is like an ink that never runs dry.

"It just gathers and gathers and gathers and never ends," said Gonzalez.

The son of a troquero, Gonzalez came to the United States from Guadalajara, Mexico, when he was 18. Before his artistic awakening in el Norte, he wanted to become an engineer or mathematician.

"When you're artistic, you get that out there one way or another," said his wife, Libet. "I want him to do whatever his passion is, and I wanted him to do this."

She pointed out, though, that Gonzalez doesn't hang any original pieces at his home.

"He's too much of a perfectionist," she said. "He'll do something great, then tear it up. Besides, I think he wants his work seen by as many people as possible. That's why trucks work so well for him."

As Gonzalez pulled into a car wash off Rosecrans Avenue in Norwalk, pedestrians and customers of nearby businesses stared. Some took photos. Someone shouted that the horse painting was good enough to use as an ad at the Santa Anita racetrack.

"Man, there's so much talent hidden out there," said Jonathan Aguilar, who owns a barbershop in the strip mall. "And you don't even know about it until you're behind it."



Gonzalez's artwork is displayed on the back of his truck as he drives through Norwalk.

WORLD

Bad weather in India hinders return of bodies

NEW DELHI — Bad weather has delayed the recovery of the bodies of international climbers who went missing while attempting to scale an unclimbed Himalayan peak in northern India, officials said Monday.

Veteran British mountaineer Martin Moran was leading a team which included three other Britons, two Americans, an Australian and an Indian on the expedition on Nanda Devi East.

On Sunday, paramilitary soldiers found the bodies of seven of the eight climbers at an altitude of more than 16,400 feet on the notoriously dangerous mountain. The eighth climber has not yet been found.

Hunt steps up attacks on Johnson in race

LONDON — Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt stepped up his attacks Monday on front-runner Boris Johnson in the race to become Britain's next prime minister, challenging him to face public scrutiny amid the fallout from a reported quarrel with his girlfriend that prompted a police visit.

Writing in the *Times* of London, Hunt said Johnson needs to earn the public trust by facing television debates before 160,000 Conservative Party members vote on which one of them should lead the party.

"Don't be a coward, Boris," Hunt wrote. "Man up and show the nation you can cope with the intense scrutiny the most difficult job in the country will involve."

Russia starts drills to respond to Asia threats

MOSCOW — The Russian military has launched a massive exercise to simulate a response to possible security threats in Central Asia.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said the five-day drills that began Monday will "check the armed forces' ability to ensure security in the Central Asian region that faces serious terrorist threats."

Russian officials have voiced concerns about the possible spread of militants from Afghanistan into former Soviet nations in Central Asia.

Intense heat wave to strike Paris, Europe

PARIS — Authorities in the Paris region have issued an alert for intense heat expected in the French capital and across Europe this week.

The alert level in Paris has been raised to "orange," the second-highest level.

France's national weather agency, Météo France, said the heat wave beginning Monday is expected to last all week, with temperatures at up to 104 degrees Fahrenheit across the country. The peak is expected Thursday.

In Paris, charity organizations are controlling to provide water to homeless people and local authorities have places where they can seek shelter.

From The Associated Press

Turks celebrate opposition victory

By DEREK GATOPULOS
AND ZEYNEP BILGINSOY
Associated Press

ISTANBUL — Turkey's opposition supporters parted long into the night after their candidate for Istanbul mayor beat a rival backed by long-time President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The streets were transformed into an impromptu caravan of cars honking their horns, with overjoyed passengers leaning out of windows as they cheered and waved Turkish flags.

The party eventually died down, and the main question Monday is what political newcomer Ekrem Imamoglu's win in Istanbul's biggest city means for Erdogan, and whether this is finally the opposition's moment for a serious challenge to his rule.

The opposition has been spent nearly two decades in the shadows as Erdogan has strengthened his hold on power.

Imamoglu narrowly won the vote for Istanbul mayor in March, but the vote was controversially canceled because of procedural irregularities. The repeat vote, however, was resoundingly in his favor: Imamoglu garnered 54%, beating the government candidate, Binali Yildirim, who tallied 45%.

The landslide win fueled spec-



LEFFTERIS PARRAKIS/AP

Supporters of Ekrem Imamoglu, the candidate of Turkey's secular opposition Republican People's Party, celebrate his victory in Istanbul's mayoral election in Istanbul on Sunday.

ulation that Erdogan and his Islamic-leaning Justice and Development Party, AKP, may be facing a real challenge after blitzing his opponents with successive election victories since it first came to power in 2002.

"Erdogan is likely to face not only an emboldened opposition but also more open dissent within the AKP itself," said Wolf Piccoli, of the New York-based risk analysis firm Teneo Intelligence.

"The victory of Ekrem Imamoglu ... is the most serious setback for Erdogan since his Justice and Development Party first took office in November 2002 and will further fuel the already growing sense amongst both his opponents and many members of his own party that his career is now in irreversible decline."

The vote count was officially ratified Monday. But Yildirim conceded within minutes after

the first returns were announced, and tens of thousands of opposition supporters flocked to a square in an Istanbul suburb late Sunday to greet Imamoglu, chanting his campaign slogan, "Everything will be great!"

The repeat election also heightened public anxiety over the style of government rule that critics describe has become increasingly authoritarian.

Opposition supporter Banu Kirmizigul said he voted only in the repeat election, inspired by Imamoglu's campaign.

"I am really happy and my faith in this country has been restored," he said. "I saw that our people had awakened and I decided to wake up now, and I cast my vote."

"We (the opposition) got 800,000 more votes. We were successful and I am very happy."

Turkey's borrowing rates eased as the repeat election ended months of political uncertainty.

A group of election monitors from the Council of Europe, a Strasbourg, France-based organization aimed at holding members states accountable for their human rights commitments, said Sunday's election had been held "competently and in compliance with the applicable rules."

Protesters block access to Hong Kong building; plan more action

By DAKE KANG
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Protesters fearing an erosion of Hong Kong's legal autonomy blocked access to a government office building for nearly two hours Monday and plan more demonstrations to draw the attention of leaders attending the G-20 summit this week.

About 100 demonstrators jammed the entryway and lobby of the Inland Revenue Tower, a skyscraper in the Wan Chai district in the city center.

Earlier, one of the main protest groups announced a demonstra-

tion planned on Wednesday to try to draw the attention of world leaders attending the Group of 20 summit in Japan.

The leaders of the Civil Human Rights Front said they hope the world leaders meeting in Osaka will hear the protesters' concerns over the weakening of the city's legal autonomy by mainland China.

Hundreds of thousands of people have filled the streets and sidewalks in recent weeks to oppose legislation seen as increasing Beijing's control and police treatment of the protesters. The activists spoke on Monday near

the city government headquarters, where a few protesters remained though the offices in the building had reopened.

Kelvin Ho, one of the group's several leaders, said the protest was meant to "urge the international community to give stress on Beijing that we need democracy."

At a briefing in Beijing, Zhang Jun, an assistant foreign minister, said, "I can tell you that for sure the G-20 will not discuss the issue of Hong Kong and we will not allow the G-20 to discuss the issue of Hong Kong."

Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam, who has apologized



KIN CHEUNG/AP

Protesters block the lobby of the Hong Kong Revenue Tower in Hong Kong on Monday.

over the controversy but refused calls to step down, said the legislation was needed to ensure criminals would not use the territory to evade capture and to meet international standards such as rules against money laundering.

Crowd at Prague rally says Czech democracy is at risk

By KAREL JANICEK
Associated Press

PRAGUE — Hundreds of thousands of people rallied Sunday in Prague to urge Prime Minister Andrej Babis to resign, assembling from across the Czech Republic for the capital's biggest anti-government protest since the 1989 pro-democratic Velvet Revolution that brought down the communist regime.

The demonstration at Letna Park, a site of massive gatherings that significantly contributed to the fall of communism in what

30 years ago was Czechoslovakia, was the largest in two months of street protests opposing Babis.

The protesters of 2019 said they didn't come to overthrow the current political system but to defend it.

They consider Babis, a populist billionaire, as a threat to democracy, including the independence of the country's legal system.

"We demand the resignation of Andrej Babis," said Mikulas Minar, a student who put his studies on hold to help lead the recent demonstrations organized by a

group called Million Moments for Democracy.

Babis has repeatedly said he has no reason to resign.

"It will likely be a long run," another organizer, Benjamin Rohl, told the crowd. "The current situation is unacceptable."

Opposition to Babis has been fueled by the appointment of a new justice minister as prosecutors are deciding whether to indict Babis over alleged fraud involving European Union funds.

The protesters fear the new minister might undermine the

independence of the Czech legal system, a threat that has brought the governments of Poland and Romania warnings from the European Union.

The peaceful crowd chanted "Resign, resign" and "We've had enough" while waving Czech and also European Union flags. "No Tolerance for Lies and Fraud," read a banner unrolled by the demonstrators.

The protesters announced another major protest at the same location for Nov. 16 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution.

WORLD

UN: Relatives of ex-ISIS fighters should go home

Associated Press

GENEVA — Thousands of relatives of former foreign fighters in Islamic State should be repatriated, the U.N. human rights chief said Monday, insisting that children, in particular, have suffered “grievous violations” of their rights — a challenge to European and other countries that have been reticent about taking back jihadis and their kin.

Michelle Bachelet said more than 55,000 suspected ISIS fighters and their families have been detained in Iraq and Syria. Most are in the custody of the Iraqi government and the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces, and the alleged fighters come from more than 50 countries. More than 11,000 relatives are being held at the Al Hol camp in northeastern Syria alone.

Bachelet appealed to the relevant countries to uphold their responsibilities under international law, even with regard to members of an extremist group infamous for beheadings and other grave violence. Many European countries have been reluctant to take back their nationals, led by France, which saw more of its citizens join ISIS than any other European country.

“Foreign family members should be repatriated unless they are to be prosecuted for crimes in accordance with international standards,” Bachelet told the Human Rights Council as it opened its summer session. “Children, in particular, have suffered grievous violations of their rights — including those who may have been indoctrinated or recruited by [ISIS] to perpetrate violent acts.”

Putting European jihadis on trial in their home countries is considered problematic, as little

evidence that would survive judicial scrutiny directly links them to crimes in Syria and Iraq.

Bachelet said some existing cases haven’t met international standards, noting that Iraq has sentenced to death more than 150 men and women in trials “which have not afforded adequate due process guarantees.”

In her wide-ranging speech, Bachelet also expressed “regret” at Saudi Arabia’s “dismissal” of a report last week by an independent U.N. human rights expert criticizing the kingdom over the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. As for China, she commended a “sound decision” by Hong Kong authorities to delay a bill on extradition that fanned mass protests.

But her biggest focus was on thousands of former ISIS members, saying many at Al Hol lived in “deeply sub-standard” conditions.

The U.S. has been urging European countries to take back their nationals and put them on trial but most European Union countries have refused. Russia and Kazakhstan have been most active at repatriating foreign fighters and their families.

Earlier Monday, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said that eight children of two slain ISIS fighters had been removed from Syria to an unspecified location before planned repatriation to Australia. It would mark the country’s first organized repatriation from the conflict zone.

Groups of French children were returned to France earlier this month, along with at least three adults who were immediately detained for questioning. A dozen Frenchmen have been sentenced to death in Iraq.



BORIS ROESSLER, DPA/AP

WWII bomb crater

A big crater is pictured on a cornfield after a bomb from World War II exploded in Halbach, Germany, on Monday. The bomb must have stayed under the cornfield since WWII until the chemical detonator reacted in the end. No one was injured. The crater is 33 feet wide and 13 feet deep. More than 70 years after the end of the war, unexploded bombs are still found frequently in Germany.

Ethiopia: Plotter of failed coup is killed by military

Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — The Ethiopian army brigadier general accused of leading a failed coup against a regional government has been killed in a firefight with the security forces, a spokesman for the Ethiopian prime minister’s office said Monday.

Brig. Gen. Asannew Tsige was killed on the outskirts of Bahir Dar, capital of the restive northern Amhara region, Nigussu Tilahun told The Associated Press.

Ethiopian forces had been hunting down Asannew since soldiers loyal to him on Saturday attacked

a meeting of the Amhara government, killing the regional governor and his adviser.

That attack was followed hours later by the assassination in Addis Ababa of the chief of Ethiopia’s military and a retired army general by a bodyguard.

An internet shutdown remains in force across Ethiopia following the Saturday killings.

The Ethiopian military has set up checkpoints in the capital and in the Amhara region.

Flags were flying at half-staff Monday, which has been declared a day of national mourning following the four killings.

Iraqi parliament OKs 3 key Cabinet ministers

BAGHDAD — Iraq’s deputy parliament speaker said the legislature has approved three Cabinet ministers whose posts have been vacant since the formation of the government in October.

Hassan al-Kaabi told The Associated Press that the parliament approved Najah al-Shammari for defense minister, Yassin al-Yassiri as interior minister and Farouq Amin Othman for the post of justice minister. The three were sworn in Monday.

Al-Kaabi said the election of an education minister has been postponed as the current candidate didn’t get enough votes.

Kazakhstan ammo depot fire prompts evacuation

MOSCOW — A fire engulfed a sprawling ammunition depot in Kazakhstan, injuring at least 16 and forcing the evacuation of tens of thousands.

Authorities in Kazakhstan also halted railway traffic in the area following Monday’s explosions at the depot near the town of Arys in the Shymkent region in southern Kazakhstan.

The government has introduced a state of emergency and begun evacuating Arys’ 45,000 residents.

The explosions at the depot have been powerful enough to have been registered by the nation’s seismic service.

Cypriot serial killer pleads guilty to killing 7

NICOSIA, Cyprus — A Cypriot army captain on Monday tearfully apologized to the families of seven female women and girls for the “unjust pain” he has caused them after pleading guilty to a dozen charges of premeditated murder and kidnapping.

Reacting from a prepared statement ahead of his sentencing later Monday, Nicholas Metaxas told a three-judge criminal court panel that he “doesn’t have any clear answers” why he committed the killings and that he has “struggled” to figure out the “why and how.”

Bangladeshi train crash kills 4, injures 65

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Five coaches on a Bangladesh express train veered off a railway bridge in northeastern Bangladesh, killing at least four people and injuring 65, officials said Monday, and a search of the wreckage for any people trapped was continuing.

Local chief government administrator Tofayel Ahmed said the Upaban Express train was heading for the capital, Dhaka, when the crash occurred around midnight at Kulaura in Moulvibazar district on Sunday.

He said the rail bridge broke down when the train was crossing it. The cause of the breakdown wasn’t known immediately.

The train service between the northeastern region and the rest of the country was halted.

From The Associated Press

Air Canada reviewing how crew left passenger on plane

By NATALIE SCHACHAR

Associated Press

Air Canada said Sunday it’s looking into how crewmembers could have disembarked from a plane without noticing a sleeping passenger who was left behind.

The airline was responding to an incident involving a woman who described waking up “all alone” on a “cold, dark” aircraft after a flight to Toronto ended this month.

“I think I’m having a bad dream but like seriously how is this happening!?” Tiffany Adams recounted in a June 19 Facebook post sent by her friend, Deanna Noel-Dale.

The airline confirmed the incident took place but declined to comment on its disembarking procedures or how the passenger

may have been overlooked.

“We are still reviewing this matter so we have no additional details to share, but we have followed up with the customer and remain in contact with her,” Air Canada told The Associated Press.

Adams wrote that after she woke up, she called Noel-Dale to try to explain what happened, but her phone died and she couldn’t charge it because power to the plane was off. She said she was “furious panicking” by the time she found the “walky-talky things in the cockpit,” which also didn’t work.

After no one saw the “sos signals” she made by shining a flashlight out the window, she unbolted a cabin door. Facing a steep drop to the tarmac, she leaped out of the aircraft and called over a ground crew, who got her out.

The passenger wrote that Air Canada personnel asked if she was OK and whether she would like a limo and hotel, but she declined the offer.

She said airline representatives apologized and said they would investigate.

“I haven’t got much sleep since the reoccurring night terrors and waking up anxious and afraid I’m alone locked up someplace dark,” she wrote.

The AP attempted to reach Adams through Noel-Dale’s Facebook account but had not received a response by late Sunday morning.

Air Canada said in a Facebook response to the post that it was surprised to hear the story and “very concerned,” asking Adams to send a private message with her flight details.

“We’ll take a look into it,” the airline wrote.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

50 years later, moon is still good for business

By ALEXANDRA OLSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fifty years after humans first visited, businesses are still trying to make a buck off the moon.

Hundreds of millions of people were riveted when Apollo 11 landed on the moon on July 20, 1969. Naturally, marketers jumped at the chance to sell products from cars and televisions to cereal and a once-obscure powdered drink called Tang.

They are at it again in 2019 as the 50th anniversary of the giant leap for mankind approaches.

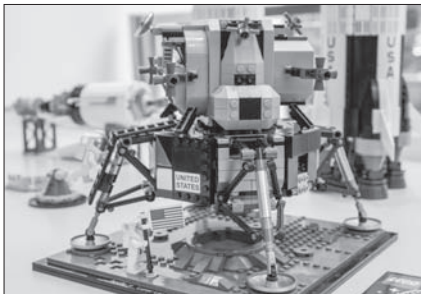
There's the cosmically priced \$34,600 limited edition Omega Speedmaster, a tribute to the watch that Buzz Aldrin wore on the moon. And the more down-to-Earth Budweiser Discovery Reserve, which revives a recipe from the 1960s and features 11 symbolic stars in the packaging.

There's the playful NASA Apollo 11 lunar lander set from Lego. And Nabisco's indulgent purple Marshmallow Moon Oreos cookies. And who doesn't need "one small step" T-shirts, Saturn V crew socks or an Apollo 11 travel tumbler?

But seriously, some brands take genuine pride at having been part of the first moon landing.

Omega Speedmaster watches have been an icon of space travel since NASA chose them for its manned missions in 1965 after other watches failed tests. In 1970, the crew of the ill-fated Apollo 13 mission used a Speedmaster to time a 14-second engine burn to align themselves for reentry to Earth.

"It continues to be an important tool to have," said James Ragan, a retired NASA aerospace engineer who has tested the watches in



MARSHALL RITZEL/AP

A Lego model of the Apollo 11 lunar lander is displayed in the company's store in New York on June 18. As the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing approaches, businesses are jumping at the chance to sell moon landing-related products.



Zippo/AP

Zippo has sold out of the 14,000 limited edition lighters it released in tribute to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.

the 1960s. "You have to look only to the Apollo 13 mission."

Omega's gold Speedmaster is a version of the watches the com-

pany presented to astronauts at a gala dinner in 1969.

A relatively more modest \$9,650 stainless steel timepiece features a laser-engraved image of Aldrin descending from the lunar lander.

Then, there are the anti-gravity Fisher Space Pens, developed specially for the Apollo missions. For luxury space enthusiasts, Fisher Space Pen Co. has a \$700 limited edition pen with authentic materials from the Apollo 11 spacecraft.

In 1969, both Omega and Fisher Space Pen Co. were quick to promote their Apollo 11 connections with media and advertising campaigns, as were NASA contractors like Boeing and General Electric.

Stouffer's made sure consumers knew it provided food for Apollo 11 astronauts once they

were back on Earth, launching the ad campaign "Everybody who's been to the moon is eating Stouffer's." Fifty years later, the Nestle-owned brand is celebrating with a media campaign to share recipes from 1969.

Brands with no direct Apollo connections were not about to sit out an event that nearly every U.S. household with a television watched. In 1969, Zippo released a lighter saluting the Apollo 11 mission and its astronauts. A half-century later, Zippo has sold out of the 14,000 limited edition lighters released in tribute to the anniversary, priced at \$100 each.

Krispy Kreme, which says it served doughnuts to witnesses at the Apollo 11 launch, conjured up a new treat — filling its classic glazed doughnuts with cream — in honor of the anniversary.

If many of the tributes have a vintage feel, it might be because public interest in space exploration has ebbed and flowed over the years, with no single event capturing the global euphoria of the first moon landing, and the Apollo program ending in 1972.

"Since 1972, human space travel has been dead boring," said David Meerman Scott, a marketing strategist and co-author of the book "Marketing the Moon," which chronicles the public relations efforts that went into the Apollo 11 mission. "We've gone around and around and around the Earth a whole bunch of times, and that is not interesting to people."

Still, Scott said the 50th anniversary comes amid renewed interest, with NASA's plans to send astronauts back to the moon by 2024 and to Mars in the 2030s.

Indeed, Lego conceived its lunar lander as a grown-up display set,

part of its Creator Expert series aimed at adults. For kids born to parents who have never known a world without space travel, the Danish toy company is releasing six new Lego City Mars exploration sets, designed in collaboration with NASA, with futuristic rockets that would take humans to the red planet.

Budweiser, similarly, has declared its ambition to be the first beer on Mars, participating in barley-growing experiments on the International Space Station.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 25)	\$1.1689
Dollar buys (June 25)	69.8555
British pound (June 25)	\$1.31
Japanese yen (June 25)	105.00
South Korean won (June 25)	1,130.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.2718
Canada (Dollar)	1.3210
China (Yuan)	6.8785
Denmark (Krone)	6.5569
Egypt (Pound)	16.7001
Euro	\$1.1387/8782
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8104
Hungary (Forint)	284.58
Israel (Sheqel)	3.6025
Japan (Yen)	107.46
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3034
Norway (Krone)	5.5035
Philippines (Peso)	51.37
Poland (Zloty)	3.34
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7495
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3543
South Korea (Won)	1,157.49
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9748
Thailand (Baht)	30.72
Turkey (Lira)	6.8156
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For non-local currency exchange rates, purchasing British pounds in Germany, check your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.00
Federal funds market rate	3.38
3-month bill	2.06
30-year bond	2.59

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Firefighter uses YouTube duck calls in rescue

CO LITTLETON — A flock of ducklings is safe in suburban Denver after a firefighter used a recording of duck calls to coax some of them from a storm drain.

A video from South Metro Fire Rescue shows how a firefighter was able to scoop out four of the birds in the water at the bottom of the drain. Four others were hiding in an adjacent pipe.

The firefighter held up his cellphone to an opening in the pipe and played a YouTube video of duck calls. The ducklings walked toward the sound.

Insect-eating plant found in state for first time

MD SNOW HILL — An insect-eating plant has been found in Maryland for the first time.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources told news outlets that botanists recently confirmed the discovery of dwarf sundew, the smallest native species of sundew in the United States. It was found in open areas with wet, peaty sand near the Nassawango Creek in Worcester County.

The department said this is the first record of the plant growing in the state, which has other species of sundew.

Woman bitten by snake while doing laundry

PA MOUNT PENN — Officials said a Pennsylvania woman was bitten on the arm by a venomous snake when she went to her basement to do laundry.

The Reading Eagle reported that the Mount Penn woman called 911 to report that she'd been bitten by a rattlesnake.

Authorities said it was actually a 2-foot-long copperhead. They found it on a shelf near the washing machine.

Police called the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, which bagged the snake and moved it to a safer location. The woman was taken to a hospital.

Man wanted for putting poop on cars

IL CHICAGO — Chicago police said in a community alert that they're searching for a man who plopped feces "all over" parked cars in the city's Bridgeport neighborhood, the Chicago Tribune reported.

Three of the poop-smearing incidents occurred June 9 in the early morning hours, with a fourth coming between June 15 and 17, according to the alert.

In addition to the cars, a storefront was also covered in excrement, police said.

Sheriff steps in after 140 people skip jury duty

GA DUBLIN — A Georgia sheriff said he had to get involved when nearly three-



DON CAMPBELL, THE (ST. JOSEPH, MICH.) HERALD-PALLADIUM/AP

Setting his sights

Owen Jones, 13, of Stevensville, Mich., looks through the sights of an anti-aircraft gun Saturday during Lest We Forget activities in St. Joseph, Mich. Lest We Forget is a nonprofit organization that promotes patriotism within the community.

fourths of people summoned for jury duty in his county failed to show up for court.

WMAZ-TV reported courts in Laurens County faced a small crisis when only 60 people showed up for jury duty out of 200 who were mailed subpoenas. Sheriff Larry Dean had deputies make calls to the no-shows.

Sanctuary combines big cats, yoga sessions

FL SARASOTA — Lions and tigers and ... yoga? An animal sanctuary in Sarasota has begun a unique yoga program amid the enclosures housing some of its 50 big cats. The Sarasota Herald Tribune reported that a recent session sold out at Big Cat Habitat & Gulf Coast Sanctuary.

The intent is to provide people with exercise of body and mind through yoga combined with an up-close experience with lions, tigers and other big cats.

The event currently is available for 24 people every fourth Saturday.

Workshops pitched to veterans who farm

IN WEST LAFAYETTE — A series of workshops and farm tours this summer is

THE CENSUS

2K

The number of winners in a North Carolina Pick 4 lottery game that chose the numbers 0-0-0-0. The state lottery said about 1,000 tickets at \$1 were sold and will pay out \$5,000 each. Another 1,000 tickets were sold for 50 cents each and will pay out \$2,500. The state said the payout of \$7.8 million is a record. The previous record was \$7.5 million in 2012, when the winning Pick 4 numbers were 1-1-1-1.

being pitched to military veterans who are farmers.

Purdue Extension and the Purdue-based Indiana AgrAbility Project are teaming up for the workshops at a fruit and vegetable operation in Rossville, July 21 in North Salem on home food preservation, raising small livestock and other topics; and Aug. 17 at a dairy goat operation in Scottsburg.

The workshops are part of a U.S. Department of Agriculture-National Institute of Food and Agriculture grant program, and no fee is required. However, participants must register online.

Rally permit precludes Confederate flag event

SC COLUMBIA — This year, the Confederate flag won't temporarily be raised at the South Carolina Statehouse to mark the day it was permanently taken down.

A group calling for racial fairness — Showing Up for Racial Justice Columbia — has a permit to rally on the capital grounds July 10.

The South Carolina Secessionist Party has raised a Confederate flag on a temporary flagpole the past three years to protest the date the rebel banner was permanently removed.

Showing Up for Racial Justice Columbia founder Sarah Keeling told The State newspaper she applied for the permit the minute it was available so the Secessionist Party couldn't gather.

Authorities: Inmates' bombing plot foiled

AL JASPER — An Alabama sheriff's department said it has foiled a plan by two inmates to detonate homemade bombs in a county courthouse. Alcom reported that Bryant Wayne Williams Jr., 29, and

Terry Keith Hammond, 56, are charged with four counts of making a terroristic threat. Both men are from Jasper, and both remain in the Walker County jail.

Investigators said the plan was for one man to bond out of jail, then gather items and instructions to create the devices.

Police: Couple sold stolen baby formula

AZ CHANDLER — Authorities said a Chandler couple was arrested for allegedly buying stolen baby formula and then selling it for a profit.

Chandler police said Rafid Khoshi, 46, and his wife, Manal Sulaiman, 43, are accused of shipping more than 25,000 cans of baby formula to California valued at about \$425,000.

They said people shoplifted baby formula from various stores around Phoenix and then sold it to Khoshi and his wife for 30 to 50 cents on the dollar.

Khoshi is jailed on suspicion of 12 counts each of theft and trafficking in stolen property and Sulaiman on two counts each of the same charges.

The couple also are accused of one count each of fraudulent schemes, participating in a criminal syndicate and illegal control of an enterprise.

From wire reports

FACES

Tony Hale is the voice of Forky in "Toy Story 4." Disney-Pixar



Pointed observations

'If I'm not trash, what am I?' asks Forky in 'Toy Story 4' as Pixar explores deep issues of identity and self-worth

By MICHAEL CAVNA
The Washington Post

Fred Rogers, the host of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," liked to pose a question to children and adults alike: "What is essential about you?" In Pixar movies, though, that question often becomes a technicolor riddle that characters pose to one another. First, there were the early "Toy Story" movies, in which astronaut action figure Buzz Lightyear has an identity crisis after being told he's just an earthbound toy. In a new description for next year's "Soul," Pixar asks fans directly: "What is it that makes you ... YOU?"

And then there's Forky, a new star of "Toy Story 4," which opened last week.

Forky, like Buzz before him, is struggling with the idea of being just a toy — not because he thinks he's a lofty action hero, but because he sees himself as trash ... literally. What is essential about Forky is that he is a small piece of disposable cutlery.

Or so he believes. Bonnie, the human child at the center of "Toy Story 4," envisions him as something else. At kindergarten orientation day, she constructs Forky out of a spork and some pipe cleaners, Popsicle sticks and a pair of mismatched googly eyes. Sheriff Woody, the "Toy Story" mainstay voiced by Tom Hanks, tries to convince Forky that Bonnie's love has changed his identity and given him a purpose beyond that of a utensil.

The frenetic Forky is voiced by Tony Hale, the "Veep" and "Arrested Development" alum who is accustomed to playing characters who are

seen as disposable by others. But in "Toy Story 4," Hale's character embraces the idea of being tomorrow's garbage.

"It's not even in a depressed way," Hale says. "That's all he knows or has been told."

At least until Woody tells Forky that he has value as a child's plaything — as an object of affection and a source of joy. "Who doesn't need to hear that?" the 48-year-old actor says. "What a beautiful thing to come out of this."

But Forky's reaction to Woody, Hale says, is basically a say: "Don't call me a toy! I'm made to help people eat chili! I'm made to go back to the trash."

Woody realizes he must help Forky to serve Bonnie. But how do you tell an anthropomorphic spork that his form is not his function?

"He's not aware of what that means," Hale says. As it happens, Forky's creators did not initially intend for him to have such philosophical depth.

"I wish we could say we sat down and wrote a beautiful character with an existential crisis, but he started off as a joke," director Josh Cooley says.

"We were talking about what our kids would play with, like a rock," Cooley says in an interview, "but what if that rock could come to life?"

The filmmakers ultimately decided it would be interesting to introduce a character who has the mind of someone who has never seen a "Toy Story" movie. "He doesn't understand the rules of this world," the director says of Forky, "and that became so much fun to play with."

'Toy Story 4' opens below expectations with \$118 million

"Toy Story 4" brought the box office to life with a \$118 million opening weekend after a three-week slump of underperforming sequels, but the Pixar film's below-expectations debut didn't quell continuing concerns about a rocky summer movie season. The "Toy Story 4" opening, according to studio estimates Sunday, ranks as the fourth highest animated film opening ever, not accounting for inflation. Above it are 2018's "Incredibles 2" (\$182 million), 2016's "Finding Dory" (\$135 million) and 2007's "Shrek the Third" (\$121 million).

A \$140-150 million opening had seemed assured for "Toy Story 4." The opening follows a string of disappointing sequels including "Dark Phoenix," "Godzilla: King of the Monsters" and "Men in Black: International." But "Toy Story 4" had something those films didn't: great reviews.

The sequel also grossed \$120 million internationally. "Men in Black: International" slipped to fourth place with \$118 million. The No. 2 film, the horror remake "Child's Play," opened with \$14.1 million. Disney's "Aladdin" remake came in third, adding \$12.2 million to pass \$800 million worldwide.

— Associated Press

BET Awards honor Blige, Tyler Perry, Nipsey Hussle

By MESFIN FEKADE
Associated Press

The 2019 BET Awards featured a number of contemporary pop and rap stars who are dominating the charts, from Cardi B to Lil Nas X. But the show belonged to artists viewed as icons in the black community, including singer Mary J. Blige, filmmaker Tyler Perry and the late rapper Nipsey Hussle.

Hussle, a respected and beloved community activist in South Los Angeles who was shot to death on March 31, posthumously earned the Humanitarian Award on Sunday night. His family accepted the honor on his behalf.

John Legend, DJ Khaled, YG and Marsha Ambrosius celebrated Hussle, born Ermasias Asghedom, with a performance. Hussle also won best male hip-hop artist, besting Drake, J. Cole, Travis Scott, Meek Mill and 21 Savage.

Blige, who earned the Lifetime Achievement Award, ran through her hits during a lengthy performance, which featured Lil Kim and Method Man.

Rihanna presented Blige with the award, who earned a standing ovation as she walked to the stage at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

The audience also erupted in cheers for media mogul Tyler Perry, who earned the Ultimate Icon Award, presented to him by Taraji P. Henson.

"When I built my studio, I built it in a neighborhood that is one of the poorest black neighborhoods in Atlanta so that young black kids could see that a black man did that, and they could do it too," Perry said. "The studio was once a Confederate army base ... which meant that there were Confederate soldiers on that base plotting and planning on how to keep 3.9 million negroes enslaved. Now that land is owned by one negro."

Lil Nas X also got the loud applause from the crowd when he brought his global country-rap hit "Old Town Road" to life with a performance at a makeshift Western salon alongside country singer Billy Ray Cyrus.

Lizzo also had a fiery performance with "Truth Hurts," which featured her playing the flute while twerking. Cardi B, the most nominated act with seven, kicked off the show with an explosive performance. She won two prizes — best female hip-hop artist and album of the year for her major-label debut, "Invasion of Privacy."

Childish Gambino, who didn't attend the show, won the top prize — video of the year — for "This Is America." Beyoncé was named best female R&B/pop artist, and Bruno Mars won best male R&B/pop artist.

Actress Regina Hall hosted the show.

Record label sued over recordings lost in 2008 fire

Associated Press

Soundgarden and estates representing Tupac Shakur and Tom Petty are among those suing Universal Music Group for master tapes lost in a 2008 fire.

In a suit filed last week in federal district court in Los Angeles, the artists allege that Universal failed to protect music ruined in the fire and to inform them of the full extent of the fire's impact, recently revealed by The New York Times.

Besides music by Petty and Shakur, the fire is believed to have destroyed master tapes and other recordings by Ella Fitzgerald and Chuck Berry, among others. The plaintiffs, who also include Steve Earle and

the band Hole, are seeking compensatory damages in excess of \$100 million.

Other news

■ **Dave Bartholomew**, a giant of New Orleans music and a rock 'n' roll pioneer who with Fats Domino co-wrote and produced such classics as "Ain't That a Shame," "I'm Walkin'" and "Let the Four Winds Blow," has died. He was 100. Bartholomew, a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, died Sunday in a suburban New Orleans hospital, his son Dave Bartholomew Jr. told The Associated Press.

■ **Elliot Roberts**, the manager of Neil Young, Joni Mitchell and many other rock

stars died June 21. He was 76. Young is known for his many clashes with record industry officials but said in a statement on his website that Roberts was "the greatest manager of all time." Roberts was a college dropout who befriended David Geffen and with him helped launch the California rock scene of the 1960s and 1970s. Besides representing such top acts as Young, Mitchell, and Crosby, Stills and Nash, Roberts helped found Asylum Records. Performers included Jackson Browne, Linda Ronstadt and the Eagles.

■ **Writer Judith Krantz**, whose million-selling novels such as "Scruples" and "Princess Daisy" engrossed readers worldwide with their steamy tales of the rich and beautiful, died June 22. She was 91.

SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VOLKSWAGEN/TNS

Work of art

2019 VW Arteon is a masterpiece in the boxy world of SUVs

By HENRY PAYNE
The Detroit News

Let's hear it for art. Some of the country's most recognizable art is in its own towns. The elegant "Spirit of Detroit" in Motown. Calder's "Flamingo" in Chicago. The sculpture that spells "Love" in New York. They break up monotonous landscapes of right angles.

The VW Arteon is like that in the boxy world of SUVs. This stunning sedan sculpture is the cure for the common five-door. From its finely drawn face to its meticulously stamped clamshell hood to its coupe-like roof, the Arteon lives up to its name. It's one of the most beautiful pieces of art in automotive today.

Even amidst the New York Auto Show's exotic supermodels, the Arteon and Mazda 3 hatchback stopped me in my tracks. Both cars make a statement in classes that have seen sales eroded by utility mania. Both offer flowing, feline lines to counter the masculine SUV bulk. Both accomplish this while embracing the SUV's most utilitarian feature — the hatchback.

And both do not fully follow through on their dramatic aspirations. Where the Mazda 3 stops short of optioning a high-horsepower hot hatch, so does Arteon shy from offering a second, more-powerful engine to complement its athletic bod. No doubt their low production volumes test the business case for a second engine.

But as halo designs for the respective brands, they deserve halo performance.

After I picked up my jaw from the ground upon seeing the Arteon again in Solvang, Calif., I slid inside. Defying its coupelike roofline, its interior is palatial. Credit a wheelbase stretched 5 inches over its predecessor, the attractive VW CC. That translates into leg room that is 6 inches longer than a Nissan Maxima and 4 inches more than a Kia Stinger and Buick Regal — all competitors in the sporty sedan segment.

My 6-foot-5 frame easily sat behind myself in the rear seat. So pick up your friends for a day out — but be sure to tell them to

hang on.

Because even though Arteon has the biggest back seat in the VW family (beating even the giant Atlas SUV), it has the personality of hot-hatch siblings Golf GTI and Golf R — my favorite compact toys. Credit a shared platform — VW's genius, scalable MQB architecture.

Indeed, Arteon is a natural walk for VW fans looking to supersize their hatchback Golf into a hatchback sedan. It has the same driving controls, same infotainment system, same driving dynamics.

If you haven't tested a sportback — the

Arteon, Kia Stinger, Buick Regal and Audi A5 — do yourself a favor: Their versatility is the best-kept secret in autodom.

Los Pedros National Forest in southern California is Hell, Mich., on steroids. Its writhing, rural roads stretch for miles. Sporting the same torque-vectoring all-wheel drive system as the Golf R, the Arteon eagerly attacked Los Pedros. Dial the mode selector to Sport and the steering and sophisticated adaptive-damping suspension tighten.

The big car's dimensions seemed to contract as it rotated effortlessly through corners.

Pushing the Arteon's limits, I pined for more from its 268-horse turbo-4. VW offers the 220-horsepower GLI over the standard Jetta. And the 228-horse GTI and 292-horse R as Golf upgrades. But halo Arteon gets ... nothing?

Pity. After all, VW group has gems in its toolbox such as the 394-horsepower turbo-5 holer (found in the Audi TT RS) or the 349-horse turbo-4 in the Audi S4. Heck, the Golf R's growly 288-horse turbo-4 would do.

Perhaps Volkswagen corporate wants the Arteon to respect the family hierarchy. Give the gorgeous Arteon a sultry mill and I'd never covet an Audi A7 again. At much less than a \$70,000, 335-horse Audi A7, the Arteon would be irresistible.

Know your place, Arteon!

But that place has already been taken by the aforementioned turbo-4 powered Kia Stinger hatchback, which goes head-to-head against the Arteon until \$40,000 at which point it sprouts a 365-horse, twin-turbo V-6 and lays rubber up the road in pursuit of luxury Germans.

Arteon? It is content to stay in its lane and trade blows with the Maxima, Buick Regal and Acura TLX. With their giant, elephant-packing hatchbacks, the Arteon and Regal are my picks here. The Buick steals the value play by adding an all-wheel drive 310-horse V-6 for just \$40,000 — less than the comparable all-wheel drive Arteon SEL trim.

The va-voom VW makes its pitch with

upscale touches such as athletic handling, panoramic sunroof, three-zone climate control and Kurkuma Yellow Metallic paint.

But VW is taking a risk by pricing with luxury brands such as Buick and Acura, and making customers pay a la carte for tech features. Other upscale mainstream brands such as Mazda and Kia load their cars with standard features like adaptive cruise control. Heck, even the Arteon's younger brother, the \$25,000 Jetta SEL, is a catch with standard items such as adaptive cruise-control and high-beam assist.

With my preferred Arteon SEL trim, you'll have to reach to \$43,000 to get the (excellent) adaptive cruise control system and all-wheel drive. I'm a sucker for 19-inch wheels, so tack on \$1,250 for those. Then pick from Arteon's color palette, including the stunning Kurkuma yellow.

Priced in the meat of the U.S. market, Arteon has competition aplenty, even from its own family. The smaller Golf GTI and Golf R come loaded from \$35,000 to \$40,000. The Atlas SUV will debut a sporty two-row "CROSS" version this year that's aimed at utility heart-throbs Jeep Grand Cherokee and Ford Edge. And there are entry luxury lookers like Mercedes A-class.

Arteon takes the best from all of them. It beats the Golfs with size while keeping their intuitive, well-engineered interiors and instrument controls. It has more dazzle and more rear seat room than the boxy Atlas. And its looks rival any luxury-mobile.

On my way back from Los Padres National Forest, my mirrors filled with another Arteon and we danced through the twisties.

It was hard to keep my eyes on the road. I kept glancing back in the mirror at that plunging clamshell hood. The hockey-stick LED running lights. Chrome grille lines dragged across the front as if by the hairs of an oil brush.

It's the art of Arteon, a masterpiece in SUV Nation.

2019 Volkswagen Arteon



Highs: Luxury good looks; nimble AWD handling

Lows: Gets pricey; performance engine option, please?

Vehicle type: Front-engine, front- and all-wheel-drive, five-passenger hatchback sedan

Base price: \$36,840 (including \$995 destination fee)

Price as tested: \$45,940 (SEL Premium AWD)

Powertrain: 2.0-liter turbo 4-cylinder (premium gas recommended)

Transmission: Eight-speed automatic

Power/torque: 268 horsepower/258 foot-pounds

EPA fuel economy rating: 22 mpg city/31 highway; 25 combined (FWD); 20/27/23 (AWD)

TNS

Stripes

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Attorneys

178

Transportation

944

Court & Carpenter
MILITARY DEFENSE LAWYERS

**THE LOCAL CIVILIAN
MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM**

Sauerwiesen 2, Kaiserslautern-
Siegelbach, Germany 67661

(833) 446-UCMJ (x8265)
www.militarylawfirm.com

Dental

902

VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

GERMANY Phone: +49-(0)6134-2592730 Toll free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de	UNITED KINGDOM +44-(0)1638-515714 enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk	U.S.A. +1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@tgallus www.tgallus
--	---	--

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

Trans Global
LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH

AMERICAN DOCTORS & STAFF

SERVICES OFFERED

- family dentistry
- periodontal maintenance
- root canals
- wisdom teeth surgery
- implant surgery
- certified orthodontics
- nitrous oxide

*Caring,
Friendly,
American
Staff*

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406230
Poststrasse 1, 68877 Ramstein
Ramsteindental.com

Wiesbaden Dental Care
06119 887 2650
Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbadendental.com

Certified American
Dental Hygienists
TRICARE Preferred Provider

Like us on Facebook

Transportation

944

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (872-7447)
For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de



Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!



Concert, events, TV,
movies, music, video
games, celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

STARS AND STRIPES.

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading
Stars and Stripes military news coverage.
In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES.
However you read us, wherever you need us.

Round-the-world news for America's military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill. Also available on mobile apps for Android smartphones and as an iOS app for both iPhone and iPad.

STARS AND STRIPES.

Mobile • Online • Print

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Lt. Col. Sean Klrner, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander
Caroline E. Miller, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stars.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stars.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stars.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stars.com
Joel Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joel@stars.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
slavin.erik@stars.com
+490631.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific
Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
kidd.aaron@stars.com
+81-42.552.2511 ext. 88380, DSN (315)227.3830

Washington
Joseph Caccioli, Washington Bureau Chief
caccioli.joseph@stars.com
+1(202)886-0033
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stars.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
Robert Reisman, Mideast Circulation Manager
robert.r.eisman@stars.com
+490631.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

Europe
Karen Lewis, Community Engagement Manager
lewis.karen@stars.com
+490631.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific
Mar Mori, customerhelp@stars.com
+81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: +1(202)456-0033
633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3505

Reader letters
letters@stars.com

Additional contacts
stars@stars.com/contact

OMBUSDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stars.com, or by phone at 202.886.0003.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekly, except Dec. 25 and Jan. 31 for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and 60 cents on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Inc. #45002, APO AF 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Inc. #45002, APO AF 96301-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. The contents of Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmilitary factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2019

stars.com

OPINION

‘Trump doctrine’: Let’s talk, not fight

By DOYLE MCMAUS
Los Angeles Times

No matter how the current crisis between the United States and Iran turns out, it should have one result: an end to the fear that President Donald Trump would be a warmonger in the Oval Office.

Trump has been inconsistent about many things, but he's been strikingly consistent about this: He would rather talk than fight. Time and again, he's threatened other countries, sometimes in bloodcurdling terms, but then made clear that he'd prefer to negotiate.

Take Iran. Last month, as tensions rose, the president threatened to destroy the entire country, or at least its regime. “If Iran wants to fight, that will be the official end of Iran,” he tweeted. He never made clear what he meant, but it sounded dire.

Then Trump pivoted. He sent a series of messages to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, that all he really wants is to roll back what's left of Tehran's dormant nuclear program — a Trump deal to replace the Obama-era deal he blew up.

“We’re not looking for regime change. I want to make that clear,” Trump said. “We’re looking for no nuclear weapons.”

So when limpet mines damaged two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman and the Pentagon blamed Iran, Trump brushed the incident aside. “Very minor,” he said, adding that ships from Norway and Japan weren't America's problem. And when Iran shot down a U.S. military drone last week, Trump again gave Khamenei the benefit of the doubt. “I think someone in the cockpit or somebody who made a mistake,” he said. And on Friday morning, the president tweeted that he had ordered retaliatory

strikes on Iran, only to change his mind. “I am in no hurry,” he wrote. “Sanctions are biting. ... Iran can NEVER have Nuclear Weapons, not against the USA, and not against the WORLD!”

These are not the words of a man with an itchy trigger finger.

Trump's decision to abort the raid did not go down well with Republican hawks. Rep. Liz Cheney, of Wyoming warned, “The failure to respond to this kind of direct provocation ... (could) be a very serious mistake.” Sen. Lindsey Graham, of South Carolina, and others agreed.

But they shouldn't have been surprised. Trump's reluctance to use force, especially against an adversary that might retaliate, is beginning to look predictable — an adjective rarely attached to his policymaking.

In 2017 and 2018, the president ordered two missile strikes in Syria after Bashar Assad's forces used chemical weapons against civilians. But Trump has not ordered further strikes despite persistent reports that Syria is still using poison gas. The same was true in 2017. He praised the dictator he once derided as “little Rocket Man” as an up-and-coming statesman.

After their first meeting in Singapore last June, Trump declared that the nuclear threat from North Korea was “over.” (It's not.) And as follow-up negotiations have hit roadblocks, he has continued to express confidence in his North Korean best friend.

“I'm in no rush,” he said last week.

There's a pattern here, and it might even

add up to a “Trump Doctrine.”

The president hasn't succeeded in carrying out his campaign promise to bring all U.S. troops home from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, but he's resisted starting any new wars. His model for diplomacy is to threaten outside punishments — total destruction for Iran or North Korea, escalating tariffs for trade partners from China to Canada, and U.S. withdrawal from NATO if alliance members don't increase their defense budgets — but back down if his threats produce negotiations.

His main goal, it seems, is to produce a deal he can portray as a win. He's consistently overstated the fruits of his talks with Kim. After all, North Korea's production of nuclear material hasn't stopped. And he's exaggerated the impact of his trade deals. His new U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement is only a modest update of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the pact he denounced as the worst deal ever.

The “Trump Doctrine” may come down to this: The United States is stronger than we think, other countries are weaker than they admit, and if we throw our weight around, we can always get our way.

It's a beguiling theory, but it comes with two flaws. One is that it leads Trump to bludgeon long-standing U.S. allies, and that weakens vital relationships that the U.S. needs. The other is that Trump's strategy doesn't always work — and he appears to have no fallback strategy if it fails.

His policy is still a destructive, incoherent mess. But scuff all you like about his self-declared title as the world's greatest deal maker. Having a president who prefers negotiations to war is not a bad thing.

Doyle McMaus is a Washington columnist for the Los Angeles Times and a member of the journalism program at Georgetown University.

Worsening Venezuela crisis will force US to act

By JACKSON DIEHL
The Washington Post

On June 7, the U.N. Refugee Agency and the International Organization for Migration announced that the number of Venezuelans who had fled the country had surpassed 4 million. One million people of the fewer than 30 million remaining in what was once Latin America's richest country had poured across its borders in just seven months. The pace of the exodus from Venezuela has been staggering, said a statement by the two agencies.

The news didn't get much attention in Washington. After a failed attempt by the Venezuelan opposition to provoke a military uprising on April 30, President Donald Trump chewed out his advisers, stopped talking about the country and moved on to his next “maximum pressure” target, Iran.

That's a source of mounting frustration for Venezuelans and their Latin American neighbors, who don't have the option of moving on — and who are saying their regional neighbors are doing more to help them within months unless Venezuela can be stabilized and the tide of refugees arrested. At a private conference on Venezuela this month, sponsored by the Americas Society/Council of the Americas, I heard senior Latin American diplomats, regional leaders and U.S. officials. U.S. officials speak with alarm about where the crisis may be headed. The scenarios they discussed included the spread of famine conditions; the outbreak of civil war involving competing factions of the military or the Colombian rebel groups that now control large parts of the country; or a palace coup that would replace the charm-

less and incompetent president, Nicolas Maduro, without changing the rest of the authoritarian regime that surrounds him.

The most plausible and most disturbing forecast was this: By December, an additional 1 million Venezuelans will pour into Colombia and other nearby countries — and the region will be unable to cope with them. The Trump administration will find itself facing demands that it mount some kind of intervention to stanch a crisis on the Venezuelan-Colombian border far worse than anything ever seen on the U.S.-Mexican frontier.

Meanwhile, the claim that the U.S. is responsible for the humanitarian catastrophe, now confined to the Maduro regime and the fringe left, will have gravitated to the mainstream. That's because even though the ban on Venezuelan oil purchases that Trump rashly ordered in January failed to accomplish the goal of forcing regime change, it has had a devastating economic effect. Venezuela had already experienced a historic economic collapse by the end of last year, with severe shortages of food, medicine, power and water. Oil exports, which had been the main source of Venezuela's income, need to import 95% of its food, had fallen by half. But the plunge since the U.S. oil ban went into effect has been stunning. In the first half of this month, according to Russ Dallen of Miami-based Caracas Capital, loadings of ships for oil exports had dropped below 600,000 barrels a day — compared with average exports in 2018 of 1.2 million barrels a day.

Most of the oil now being shipped is going to Russia, China and Cuba, who don't pay for it, Dallen said. Russia and China are collecting on debts, while Cuba, like a college master, is exacting tribute from its client. The regime is frantically

selling off gold from its reserves; that plus drug trafficking may bring in \$1 billion a month, enough to keep the Chavista elite in Champagne. But the rest of the country is literally starving.

Trump administration officials profess to be untroubled by the prospect of being blamed for creating Latin America's first modern famine. They say they still expect the regime to crumble, allowing a transition to democracy led by opposition leader Juan Guaido. But the assessments of senior diplomats and regional experts at this month's conference were predominantly pessimistic. Many said they thought it unlikely that the Venezuelan military could or would overthrow the regime, while its senior officers are up to their necks in drug trafficking and other corruption, lower ranks are heavily monitored and dissenters quickly purged.

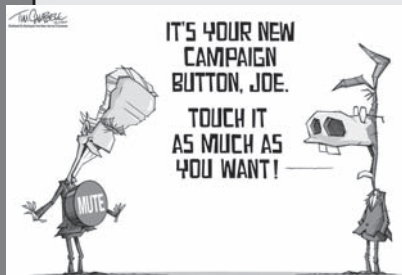
For lack of better options, Guaido's alternative government has been negotiating with Maduro for the past few weeks, but almost no one believes a deal will happen. Latin American and European nations are hoping to push the regime into scheduling elections. But a fair election would require a complete reconstruction of the compromised electoral system — and senior regime figures have said over and over that they will never accept an election effort.

Every new proposal for “dialogue” between the Maduro regime and the opposition simply causes another stampede of refugees for the border, one senior diplomat grimly observed. That mounting mass exodus is the real mover of the crisis. Sooner or later, it will force Venezuela back onto Washington's agenda.

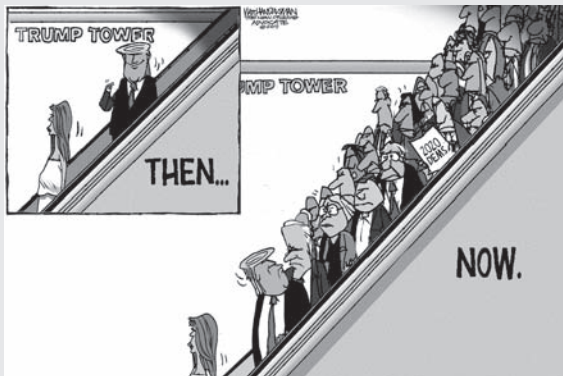
Jackson Diehl is deputy editorial page editor for The Washington Post.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service



WALT HANDELSMAN/Tribune Content Agency



LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group



JEFF DANZIGER/Washington Post News Service



LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group

Frazz

Dilbert

Pearls Before Swine

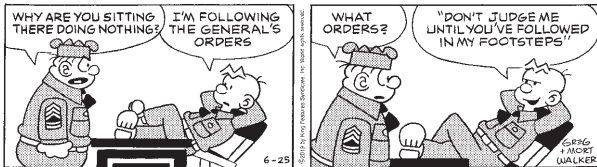
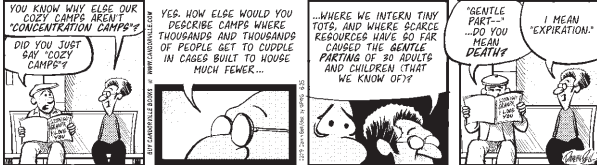
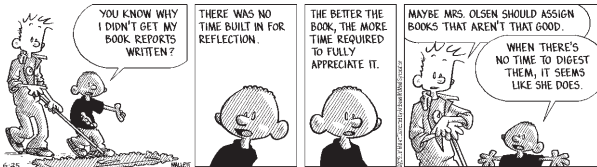
Non Sequitur

Candorville

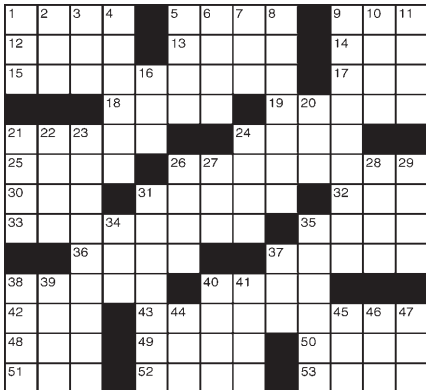
Carpe Diem

Beetle Bailey

Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Mausoleum
- 5 "Born Free" lioness
- 9 Branch
- 12 Ornamental jug
- 13 Jupiter counterpart
- 14 Sheepish remark
- 15 Famed diarist
- 17 Squeak stopper
- 18 Historic times
- 19 Grown-up
- 21 Town square
- 24 Tizzy
- 25 Occupy the throne
- 26 Imaginary
- 30 Right angle
- 31 Count with an orchestra
- 32 Simile center
- 33 Bloated
- 35 Computer brand
- 36 Literary Jane
- 37 Puccini work
- 38 Curry spice
- 40 Roundish do
- 42 Palindromic constellation
- 43 Yearly charge
- 48 Up to
- 49 Oboe insert
- 50 Cupid's realm
- 51 Compass dir.

DOWN

- 2 Columnist
- 3 Maureen
- 4 Milky gem
- 6 Like the Supremes and the Pointer Sisters
- 7 Use scissors
- 8 Earl Grey, e.g.
- 9 Gents
- 10 Light wind
- 11 Poet Pound
- 12 Meadows
- 13 Day light
- 14 With suspicion, as a look
- 15 Complete reversal
- 16 Banister
- 17 Beer ingredient
- 18 Monk's title
- 19 Cato's 502
- 21 Get ready, briefly
- 22 Humdingar
- 23 Like the Supremes and the Pointer Sisters
- 24 Use scissors
- 26 Lose color
- 27 Tempe sch.
- 28 Addict
- 29 Zhivago's love
- 30 Novelist
- 31 Malamud
- 32 Memo letters
- 33 Lunar program
- 34 Mouths (Lat.)
- 35 Felines
- 36 "The Haj" author
- 37 From the start
- 38 Elmer of cartoons
- 39 "The Matrix" role
- 40 Dandy guy
- 41 Actress Mendes
- 42 Foray, for one

Answer to Previous Puzzle



6-25

CRYPTOQUIP

Y QATUI NQTN TKNPU BTUO
ETH ZDVYLJ T LAE VPVU
QPKOAV NATB TLI KTWYWLJ

NQAB NQA UDRRTWP HTZUAH.
Yesterday's Cryptquip: FAVORED TUNE FROM
SOMEbody WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A
SHORT-ORDER COOK: "I BELIEVE I CAN FRY."
Today's Cryptquip Clue: V equals Y


FREE AD Guidelines:

- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

CLASSIFIED

Go to stripes.com to place your free ad. *Sell fast/ Buy fast*

When you see this  camera icon go to stripes.com to view the uploaded photo.

EUROPE		MIDDLE EAST		PACIFIC
Advertising:	Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com +49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013	Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com +49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013		Ichiro Katayanagi CustomerHelp@stripes.com +81(3) 6385,3267 DSN 315,229,3267
Circulation:	Van Rowell rowell,van@stripes.com +49(0)631,3615,9111 DSN 314,583,9111	Robert Reismann reismann,robert@stripes.com +49(0)631,3615,9150 DSN 314,583,9150		Mari Matsumoto SSPcirculation@stripes.com +81(3) 6385,3171 DSN 315,229,3171
Reader Letters:	letters@stripes.com	letters@stripes.com		letters@stripes.com

Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates: CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012

Announcements 040

Automotive 140

Autos for Sale
• Germany 142

Entertainment 450

SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- ❑ Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.

- ❑ People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Auto • Quality Pre-owned
US SPEC Vehicles
www.usfcauto.com
Free Europe-wide delivery
CZ

Free Classifieds!
Stripes.com for details.
STARS AND STRIPES

Brent Marx new CD
"You're the Light"

Country/Rock/easy listening
songs for Parties, travel, home
and bonfires.

Available now at Amazon.de
iTunes, iCloud, etc.
50% of all proceeds are donated
to the National Wounded
Warrior Center.



Are you in the picture?

Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading
Stars and Stripes military news coverage.
In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

However you read us, wherever you need us.

Round-the-world news for America's military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill.
Also available on mobile apps for Android smartphones and as an iOS app for both iPhone and iPad.

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

Mobile • Online • Print

SOCAL RIBBARD

Sports on Air

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net

Deals

Sunday's Transactions

BASEBALL
BOSTON RED SOX — Signed RHP Robinson to a minor league contract. **DETROIT TIGERS** — Designated RHP Josh Smith to Columbus (IL). Recalled RB Bobby Bradley from Columbus.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Traded RHP Ben Lively to Arizona for cash. Signed CF Wyatt Mascarella to a one-year contract.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed OF Cameron Maybin on the 10-day IL, retroactive to Saturday. Recalled LHP Nestor Cortes Jr. from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. **ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Signed RHP Ben Lively to a minor league contract.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Placed RHP Blake Treinen on the 10-day IL, retroactive to Friday. Selected the contract of RHP Brian Schlitter from Las Vegas (CA).

SEATTLE MARINERS — Options RHP Antonio Bautista to Tacoma (PCL). Designated LHP Jesse Biddle for assignment. Selected the contracts of RHPs Matt Garza and Mike Wright from Tacoma. Sent RHP Sean Todd to Everett (NW) for a rehab assignment. Transferred RHP Connor Huff to the 60-day IL.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Options RHP Austin Prater to Durham (IL). Placed RB Tanel Robertson and RHP Diego Castillo on the 10-day IL. Robertson retroactive to Friday, and Castillo retroactive to Friday. Recalled LHP Adam Keefe and RHP Hunter Wood from Durham. Placed RHP Brandon Moss on the 10-day IL. Sent LHP Anthony Banda to Charlotte (FSL) for a rehab assignment.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Options RHP Jansen Romano to Buffalo (IL). Recalled RHP Sean Reid-Fly from Buffalo.

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Options RHP Kevin Cronin and RHP Ben Lively to Reno (PCL). Recalled RB Domingo Leyba from Reno. Signed LB Scott Garrett. Lyle Lin, OF Dominic Canzone, LHP Avery Short and 2B Cam Carcone to minor league contracts.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Options RHP Matt Kemp to the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP Chad Sobotka from Gwinnett. Sent RHP Sean Newberry to Gwinnett for a rehab assignment. Signed SS Garrett Saunders to a minor league contract.

CHICAGO CUBS — Options RHP Rowan Wick to Iowa (PCL). Assigned LHP Tim Collins outright to Iowa. Reinstated RHP P.J. Eaton from the 60-day IL.

CINCINNATI REDS — Signed LHP Jacques Pucheu, RHP Jake Gilbert and RHP Jacob deGrom to minor league contracts.

HOUSTON ROCKIES — Options RHP Jeff Hoffman to Albuquerque (PCL). Recalled INF Garrett Hampson from Albuquerque. Signed RHP Jake Kumerow to a minor league contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Placed LB Drew Plessner on the 10-day IL, retroactive to Friday. Recalled CF Will Smith from Oklahoma City (PCL).

MIAMI MARLINS — Assigned OFs Peter O'Brien and Ross Heston outright to Reno (PCL). Recalled RHP Jose Bautista to Jupiter (FSL) to a rehab assignment. Signed CF Adrian Nieto to a minor league contract.

NEW YORK METS — Sent LHP Luis Castillo to Luchino (PCL) for a rehab assignment. Signed RHP Danny Hix to a minor league contract.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Options RHP Edubray Ramos to Lehigh Valley (IL). Recalled RHP Enyel De Los Santos from Lehigh Valley.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Sent RHP Jordan Lyles to Indianapolis (IL) for a rehab assignment.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Options RHP RHP Chris Paddock from Lake Elsinore (Cal).

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Released RHP Trevor Rosenthal. Options RHP Kyle Freese (PCL) and RHP Ryan Zimmerman to the 10-day IL. Recalled 1B Josh Voth from Harrisburg (IL) and RHP McGowan from Fresno.

BASEBALL

Yankees' NBA

NEW YORK LIBERTY — Announced the resignation of assistant coach Charming Smith, to become head coach at the University of California.

Soccer

CONCACAF Gold Cup

x-advanced to quarterfinal

GROUP A	GP	W	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Mexico	3	0	0	13	2	9
Costa Rica	3	0	1	12	3	6
Major League	3	1	2	5	5	5
Canada	3	0	0	3	17	0

Saturday, June 22, 2019
At Pasadena, Calif.

Costa Rica, 0-0 Mexico 7, Cuba 0

Wednesday, June 19, 2019
At Denver

Martinez 3, Cuba 0

Sunday, June 23, 2019
At Charlotte, N.C.

Cuba 0, Cuba 0

Mexico 3, Martinez 2

GROUP B

GP	W	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Costa Rica	2	0	0	1	3
x-Haiti	2	0	0	4	1
Guatemala	2	0	0	1	0
Nicaragua	2	0	0	0	0

Saturday, June 16, 2019
At San Jose, Costa Rica

Haiti 2, Bermuda 1

Costa Rica, Nicaragua 0

Thursday, June 20, 2019
At Frisco, Texas

Haiti 2, Nicaragua 0

Costa Rica 2, Bermuda 1

Monday, June 24, 2019
At Harrison, N.J.

Bermuda vs. Costa Rica

Haiti vs. Costa Rica

GROUP C

GP	W	L	GF	GA	Pts
Jamaica	2	1	0	3	2
x-Salvador	2	0	0	0	0
Curacao	2	0	0	1	0
Honduras	2	0	0	1	0

Monday, June 17, 2019
At Jamaica

El Salvador 1, Curacao 0

Jamaica 3, Honduras 2

Friday, June 21, 2019
At Houston

El Salvador 0, Jamaica 0

 Jamaica 0, Honduras 0 |

Thursday, June 25, 2019
At Los Angeles

Jamaica vs. Curacao

Honduras vs. El Salvador

GROUP D

GP	W	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-United States	2	0	0	0	6
Guatemala	2	0	0	0	0
Nicaragua	2	0	0	2	0
Trinidad	2	0	0	0	0

Tuesday, June 18, 2019
At St. Paul, Minn.

Panama 2, Trinidad and Tobago 0

United States 4, Guyana 0

Saturday, June 22, 2019
At Cleveland

Panama 4, Guyana 2

U.S. 6, Trinidad and Tobago 0

Wednesday, June 26, 2019
At Kansas City, Mo.

Trinidad and Tobago vs. Guyana

Panama vs. United States

QUARTERFINALS

Saturday, June 29, 2019

Group B Second place vs. Group A first place

Group A first place vs. Group B second place

Sunday, June 30, 2019
At Philadelphia

Group C first place vs. Group D second place

Group D second place vs. Group C first place

Final

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

Group C second place vs. Group D first place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

NBA

Larry's legend: Record breaking, rule making

Bird, Magic Johnson to receive Lifetime Achievement Award

By BRIAN MAHONEY
Associated Press

Larry Bird's place in NBA history stretches from the record book to the rule book.

A Hall of Fame player later became a successful coach and team executive. Along the way, he watched free agency transform from something rarely discussed to practically a year-round conversation — with his own name one of the talking points — and the three-point shot go from afterthought to essential.

He will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award during the NBA Awards Monday along with Magic Johnson, his rival-turned-friend with whom he competed in some of the most important events in basketball history.

Their meeting in the 1979 NCAA championship game is still the highest-rated college game on television, and the 1992 U.S. Olympic team they captained to gold in Barcelona was a pivotal moment in basketball truly becoming a global game.

"We came in in 1980. Here it is 2019. Whoever thought we'd be around this long?" Bird said. "But it's a great honor and we've seen a lot in this NBA over the years, and a lot of good and it continues to get better."

It's been a little rocky lately for Johnson, with his recent resignation as Lakers president and subsequent reports of a bad work ethic and bad working environment. Bird eventually decided to

read some of the stories for himself and was dubious.

"That's not him," Bird said. "That don't sound like Magic at all to me and I just hope everything works out for him because we have a good relationship."

It grew through the 1980s, when the Lakers won five titles and the Celtics three. With the expectation of competing for the championship every year, Bird never thought about leaving Boston or even when he'd be able to consider it.

"I always thought I was going to be in one place and play for Boston and I always felt like Kevin [McHale] and Robert [Parish], them guys felt the same way. I really don't know that, but that's what I thought because when you're winning at a high level, why change?" Bird said.

"But free agency's different. Everybody makes their own decisions and the thinking of the game is different. Everybody's trying to brand themselves and have their own teams. I never thought about that. I just wanted to go out there and play and try to win that game that night."

The salary cap was introduced in the NBA a few years into Bird's career and one of the spending exceptions allows teams to exceed the cap to pay their own veteran free agents more with an extra year on their contract. With Bird reaching free agency when the cap arrived in 1983, the rule became known as the Larry Bird Exception, or Bird Rights.



PETER SOUTHWICK/AP

Celtics forward Larry Bird, shown in 1987, was a 12-time NBA All-Star and three-time NBA champion.

Bird Rights are the biggest advantage a team owns in trying to retain a top player. Bird is glad the rule helps players earn closer to what he feels they're worth, though having your name on an important piece of NBA business isn't as cool as it sounds.

"I know a few years ago I was hoping they'd take that out of the last Collective Bargaining Agreement because you're sitting at home sometimes and you hear your name and you're like, 'What are they talking about now?' and it's always the Bird Exception or the Bird Rule," Bird said.

After averaging 24.3 points, 10 rebounds and 6.3 assists in his 13 seasons, the Indiana native coached the Pacers to the NBA Finals and later built an Eastern Conference contender as team president. He is the only person in league history to be voted MVP, Coach of the Year and Executive of the Year.

Bird still scouts for the Pacers and is a fan of today's wide-open style of play and its heavy reliance on the three-point shot. "My concern 15 years ago was everybody's going to be 6-foot-9 like Magic Johnson at the point guard and the little guys are going to get squeezed out. Now it's just the opposite," Bird said. "The big guys are getting squeezed out and the little guys are taking over, and the three-point line has been there since 1980 and nobody utilized it until the last 15, 17

years. I can remember watching Kentucky play and Rick Pitino was shooting three-pointers all the time and I go Jesus Christ, no way you can win like that. Now if you don't do it, you're not going to win."

Bird won the first three three-point contests at All-Star weekend and is on any list of the game's greatest shooters, though he said he rarely even practiced the shot in an era when pounding the ball inside was the preference.

"Matter of fact, when I played, we never guarded guys out there," Bird said.

Now teams have to — even when players are far behind the arc. Bird is amazed with what Golden State has done with its long-range shooting, marveling in particular at Klay Thompson's NBA-record 37 points in the third quarter of a game on Jan. 23, 2015.

"I mean, to me, I just can't believe that," Bird said. "I played this game. I've been out there and I got hot before, but to score 37 points? I remember I scored 24 in a quarter and I go, 'Geez, nobody will ever do that again.'"

Bird won Rookie of the Year after his first season and a gold medal after his last. In between, the game exploded financially and in popularity.

"I'm not a guy that talks about my past because I always look to the future, but you really sit down and look at it. I've been involved in a lot, it's pretty nice," Bird said.

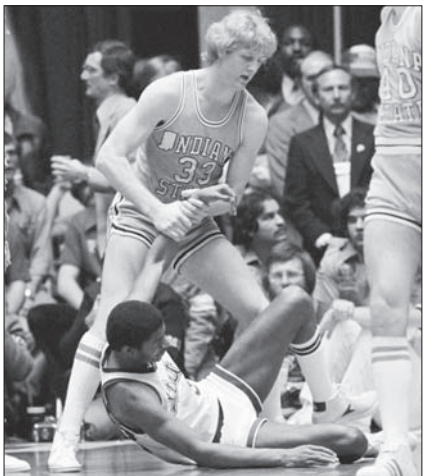
'I just hope everything works out for him because we have a good relationship.'

Larry Bird
On Magic Johnson



ARY SANCIETTA/AP

Former NBA players Larry Bird, left, and Magic Johnson share a laugh at a 2009 news conference before the championship game between Michigan State and North Carolina at the men's NCAA Final Four college basketball tournament in Detroit. The two are set to receive the NBA's Lifetime Achievement Award on Monday.



FILE/AP

Indiana State's Larry Bird gives a helping hand to Michigan State's Magic Johnson during the championship game in the 1979 NCAA Tournament in Salt Lake City, Utah.

HIGH SCHOOL/NHL/TENNIS

Jacobs, Andrew named top athletes in DODEA Europe

Stars and Stripes

Jessica Jacobs and Ogden Andrew played their senior years against Division III competition, but their skills and accomplishments in their sports allowed them to outshine athletes from larger schools to earn coveted DODEA Europe's Athlete of the Year awards this year.

Jacobs helped power Signonella to its fourth straight volleyball championship, and third consecutive basketball and softball titles.

Ansbach's Andrew was a two-way All-Europe performer in football and All-Europe in basketball.

On the volleyball court, Jacobs had 116 aces, was named the D-III tournament MVP, and selected first team All-Europe.

Helping the Jaguars to their third straight basketball title in the winter, Jacobs averaged 13 points, seven rebounds and two assists per game, and led the team in steals. Named All-Europe first team and a D-III All-Tournament selection, she also tied for high-point honors with 12 in the title game victory over Spangdahlem.

But it was in the spring that Jacobs put up her most impressive statistics as she helped Signonella win its third straight softball crown. She batted .660 with seven home runs and 37 RBIs, and didn't strike out all year. On the mound, she was 9-2 with a 2.07 ERA and was named All-Europe and to the D-III/III All-Tournament team.

"I think her accomplishments speak for themselves," Signonella Athletic Director Michelle Chandler said.



BRIAN FERGUSON/Stars and Stripes

Ansbach's Ogden Andrew scores during the DODEA Europe Division III football championship against AFNORTH in November.



CHAD GARLAND/Stars and Stripes

Signonella's Jessica Jacobs pitches to Rota during Division II/III DODEA Europe softball championship game in May.

Andrew, meanwhile, was a one-man wrecking crew for Ansbach in its six-man football debut. He rushed for 1,184 yards and 22 touchdowns, caught three more touchdowns, returned a punt for a score, and added three touchdowns on kickoff returns. He had 4.5 sacks, four interceptions, seven forced fumbles, four fumble recoveries and a safety on defense. The Cougars won the title and Andrew was named All-Europe as a running back and linebacker.

In the winter, Andrew helped to propel the Cougars to the D-III title game, averaging 22 points and 13 rebounds per game.

And in the spring, Andrew excelled in track and field, finishing second in discus, fifth in long jump and eighth in the triple jump at the European championships. He was a three-year captain of the track team.

"We believe he represents one of the best student athletes that Ansbach has ever produced," track coach David Dickens said.



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, right, and players' union chief Donald Fehr are in agreement in their desire to reboot the World Cup of Hockey tournament but not the NHL returning to participate in the Winter Olympics.

International events part of labor talks

By JOHN WAWROW
Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — With labor talks having already begun on an informal basis, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and union chief Don Fehr are in favor of rebooting the World Cup of Hockey tournament and holding it every four years.

The stumbling block to laying out a long-term calendar of international competition, however, revolves around the hot-button topic of the NHL competing at the Winter Olympics after skipping out on South Korea last year.

"One of the things I hope we will have is an agreement to establish the long-term schedule for international events which would include World Cups of Hockey," said Fehr, stressing the plural "Cups" during an interview with The Associated Press at the league's draft festivities in Vancouver, British Columbia, this past weekend. "That's a stand-alone event. It should not be seen as competing with or replacing the Olympics. It can be done."

Bettman is on board when it comes to the World Cup.

"We think that's a great event and it's something we've been trying to work out for more than two years," he said. "We're all in favor of setting an international calendar, and it takes two to tango, so to speak."

There's a caveat, of course, and the reason why the two sides aren't tangoing just yet.

"We think the World Cup of Hockey can be a wonderful event, particularly if we don't go to the Olympics," Bettman said.

Though resolving a way to reduce the percentage of players' salaries being held back annually in an escrow fund is the NHL Players' Association's most pressing concern with the collective bargaining agreement, international competition is also on the list.

And that's where the World Cup — revived in 2016 — and Olympic Games participation will play a role once formal negotiations begin this summer leading up to September deadlines in which either side can choose to opt out and terminate the current CBA by the fall of 2020. The owners have until

Sept. 1 and players on Sept. 15 to reach their decisions.

"There have been a series of discussions. I don't think I would call them formal negotiations yet," Fehr said. "And if your next question's going to be how it's going to end up, I'm going to tell you, ask me in the middle of August because I don't know yet."

Players are unhappy with the league's decision to skip the most recent Winter Games after having participated in the previous five. Shutting down the regular season for two weeks is an issue for owners, as was the time difference regarding South Korea, with games being played in the early morning for North American audiences.

The union sides with the league involving other issues regarding Olympic participation such as players' medical insurance coverage and marketing rights.

None of those apply when it comes to the World Cup because it's jointly controlled by the league and union, with both sides splitting the revenue.

The World Cup's return was greeted with a tremendous amount of fanfare when Bettman and Fehr shared the podium at the 2015 All-Star Game festivities in Columbus, Ohio, to announce the eight-team event would be held in Toronto the following year.

Speaking only for himself and not the union, Fehr said he would prefer the NHL compete at the Olympics and then have the World Cup held every four years — with two years separating the events.

"If it was up to me, I'd do it all sooner rather than later, but we'll see," Fehr said.

Fehr noted the union and NHL can't resolve the Olympic participation question alone in labor talks because outstanding issues must also be negotiated with the International Ice Hockey Federation and International Olympic Committee.

Bettman doesn't see why the two sides can't reach a deal on the World Cup, given they're both in favor.

"Yes, so it should get done," Bettman said. "We're going to ultimately come together and figure out something that everybody's comfortable with."

Tennis greats applaud Barty's rise to No. 1

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Australia's greatest female tennis players, Margaret Court and Evonne Goolagong Cawley, have joined in celebrating the rise of compatriot Ashleigh Barty to the No. 1 world ranking they both held.

Barty became the first Australian woman in more than 40 years to take the top ranking by claiming her third title of 2019 on Sunday in Birmingham. Her mentor and idol Goolagong Cawley, who won seven grand slams, was the first in 1976. The WTA rankings were introduced in 1973.

"In 2019, with all the pieces in place, her rise has been almost unstoppable," Goolagong Cawley said in a statement on Monday. "Ash is a very worthy No. 1 and winning at the French will have given her even more confidence."

"I am so proud that another Aboriginal player sits on top of the rankings in women's tennis, particularly a young lady who conveys such happiness in and out of court."

Court, who won 24 grand slams, said the challenge for Barty was to stay at No. 1.

"It was always easier climbing up the ladder than staying there," Court said. "That's a real champion — to stay at the top."

Compatriot Sam Stosur, who won the 2011 U.S. Open, said Barty's attitude will serve her well as she goes into Wimbledon next week as the top seed.

"She is playing fantastic and grass is a surface that she openly says she can't wait to get on every



NIEL FRENCH/AP

Australia's Ashleigh Barty won the Birmingham Classic and is now No. 1 in the world rankings.

year," Stosur said. "I don't think she went to the French thinking she had a shot, which is maybe why she went there and put no pressure on herself."

"She was just playing it and enjoying it and getting through the rounds and suddenly she's won a grand slam."

The great Billie Jean King congratulated Barty on Twitter.

"With incredible versatility, perseverance, and focus, Ash Barty is an inspiration to the next generation of young players in Australia."

"Well done!" King tweeted.

AUTO RACING

Roundup

Rossi dominates in Road America win

Associated Press

ELKHART LAKE, Wis. — On a race car driver's list of nice problems to have, Alexander Rossi's biggest issue Sunday ranks pretty high. During a dominant drive at Road America, Rossi had to keep focused with nobody in his rearview mirrors.

Rossi took the lead in the first turn of the first lap, and then drove away from the rest of the field to win the IndyCar race at the 4.014-mile road course in central Wisconsin.

"You're pushing every lap, regardless of the gap, right?" Rossi said. "You've got to stay in that mindset and in the zone."

Rossi led 54 of 55 laps, only relinquishing the lead when he made pit stops, and finished more than 28 seconds ahead of Will Power. Josef Newgarden finished third, followed by Graham Rahal and Scott Dixon.

"I actually never saw Alex," Power said. "I felt like I was running my own race."

Rossi has another nice problem on the horizon: He has to decide where he wants to drive next year. He's in a contract year at Andretti Autosport, making him the most coveted free agent in IndyCar for next season. Andretti wants him back, but he's expected to have options. Rossi didn't want to talk about his contract situation after the race, saying at one point, "It's in God's hands."

Team Penske drivers Newgarden and Power, however, didn't pass on an opportunity to lobby for having him as a teammate.

"That'd be cool," said Newgarden, who has a seven-point lead over Rossi in the championship standings.

Added Power: "As long as he's not replacing me."

Giving Rossi a car this dominant certainly doesn't hurt Andretti's case for him to stay.

"This is probably one of the best race cars I've ever had," Rossi said.

It was the second win of the season and seventh career victory for Rossi, who also won at

Long Beach earlier this year. Rossi also has three second-place finishes this year, a source of some disappointment.

"We don't show up to finish second, right?" Rossi said.

Hamilton cruises to French GP victory

LE CASTELLET, France — Lewis Hamilton needed only a few seconds to take control of the French Grand Prix on Sunday.

Once he accelerated away from pole position, leaving Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas trailing, Hamilton was not challenged over 53 laps.

His fourth straight win, sixth overall this season, and 79th of his career looked easy as he finished 18 seconds ahead of Bottas and 19 seconds ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc.

It moved Hamilton 36 points ahead of Bottas and a massive 76 points clear of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel in a quest for a sixth title which is looking increasingly likely for the British driver. It remains a highly unlikely feat but, if Hamilton wins the remaining 13 races this season, he will break Michael Schumacher's record of 91 F1 wins.

Yet despite his imperious dominance, Hamilton has sympathy for F1 fans who want more exciting racing, and long for the overtaking duels of old which gave races an unpredictable edge.

"If you say it's boring, I totally understand it," Hamilton said after his win. "Don't blame the drivers. We don't write the rules. Put the pressure on the people at the top, who should be doing their jobs. They have made mistakes for many, many years."

Hamilton's Mercedes team is favorite for a sixth straight drivers' and constructors' double. From 2010-13, Red Bull did the same when Vettel won his four F1 titles.

Leclerc provided late excitement, at least, when he almost caught Bottas on the last lap.



Ben Margot/AP

Martin Truex Jr. leads Kyle Busch through a turn during Sunday's NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race in Sonoma, Calif. Truex earned his 23rd career victory.

Truex holds off teammate

Driver tops Kyle Busch at Sonoma road course for fourth win of year

By GREG BEACHAM

Associated Press

SONOMA, Calif. — Martin Truex Jr. and Kyle Busch have managed to keep their long-standing rivalry quite friendly during their first season as teammates at Joe Gibbs Racing.

It's a bit easier for Truex to be a gracious winner — and for Busch to be somewhat content with second place — when their two Toyotas are blowing away the rest of the NASCAR Cup Series field by a full 31 seconds, as they did on a dominant Sunday in wine country.

Truex won on the hilly road course at Sonoma Raceway for the second straight year and the third in his career, comfortably holding off Busch for JGR's 10th victory of the season.

Truex won for the fourth time in the last eight points-paying races, earning his 23rd career victory overall. Busch also has four wins this season, putting the two veteran drivers in position for a long summer of friendly competition.

"We race as hard as we can, possibly race on the race track, and we respect each other off it," Truex said. "That works out pretty good."

Although Busch is a vicious competitor, he had perspective on this result after failing to find a way to make a late push past

Truex. Their careers have intersected regularly since 2004, when Truex held off Busch to win the Busch Series championship.

"It [stinks] to finish second to a teammate, but it is good for the company," said Busch, who has four top-five finishes in the last five years at Sonoma. "Overall, Martin is really good here. I'm just pumped that I actually ran good."

Ryan Blaney was a distant third, more than 33 seconds behind Truex. Matt DiBenedetto finished a career-best fourth, and JGR's Denny Hamlin was fifth. Erik Jones, JGR's fourth driver, came in eighth.

Truex and Busch finished 1-2 for the seventh time in their careers, and they were the class of the final stage in a caution-free race. While JGR isn't overwhelming its foes in the points standings, it hopes to build on its strong Northern California performance into the summer.

"What a season we've turned this into," said Truex, who has won with three different team owners at Sonoma. "This group, man, they're unbelievable. Hopefully we can keep it going."

After Hamlin won the second stage, Truex got the lead early in the third stage, and Busch didn't follow Truex into the pits for the final stop. When Busch finally pitted four laps later, Truex re-

claimed the lead with 23 laps to go. Truex opened an 8-second advantage and held off a strong push by Busch to win by 1.861 seconds.

More things to know about Sonoma:

Who's hot

DiBenedetto gave an impressive performance after starting in 19th, patiently picking his way up the field with an impressively fast Toyota. The Northern California native had family and friends in the stands to watch his feat.

Who's not

Series points leader Joey Logano had battery problems and had to pit with 15 laps to go. He finished 23rd. Chase Elliott started fourth and ran near the front for much of the day before his engine apparently blew early in the final stage.

Bottoms up

Truex got to raise the winner's goblet full of red wine for the third time in his career, but the New Jersey native still hasn't warmed up to Northern California's signature beverage. "I just don't like wine," he said. "I'm sorry. It's the best damn wine I've ever had. I just don't like it."



June 7th - July 31st

Share your story for a chance to win roundtrip airfare on us.

Enter Now: militaryautosource.com/homewardbound

No purchase necessary to enter. The contest is open to U.S. Military Personnel and Active Civilians, 18 years or older who are authorized by the Exchange/MSDCOM to participate through the military exchange system, who are stationed at assigned GSOMs. For complete rules and regulations visit militaryautosource.com/homewardbound. All prizes and guarantees subject to terms and conditions. American Military Sales Corporation is an authorized contractor of the Exchange and MSDCOM. Military Autosource is an authorized distributor to sell and distribute Ford vehicles. This advertisement does not express or imply endorsement by the Exchange, MSDCOM, DOD components, or the Federal Government and is not sponsored by them. (P477)







**Win a \$2,500
Delta Gift Card**



MLB

Another Dodgers rookie hits walk-off HR

By JOE REEDY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Will Smith had seen fellow Los Angeles Dodgers rookies Matt Beatty and Alex Verdugo deliver walk-off homers during their weekend series against the Colorado Rockies. Hours after being called up from the minors on Sunday, it was Smith's turn to join the fun.

The rookie catcher connected for a pinch-hit, three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning that lifted the Dodgers to a 6-3 victory and a three-game sweep over their closest NL West pursuers.

"Just when you think it can't get any better, it does," manager Dave Roberts said. "We talk about these young players not being afraid of the moment. For Will to get a pinch hit in and carry it to the opposite part of the field is pretty impressive."

It is the first time in major league history that rookie teammates have hit walk-off homers in three straight games, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Beatty hit a two-run shot in the ninth inning on Friday and Verdugo did it in the 11th on Saturday.

The last team to win three straight games in walk-off fashion was Oakland two years ago. The Dodgers had not done it since a

2010 series against Arizona.

Smith, a 24-year-old catcher playing his seventh game in the big leagues, hit a slider from Scott Oberg (3-1) over the wall in center. Beatty singled to lead off the inning and advanced on a wild pitch, and Russell Martin was intentionally walked with two outs.

Smith was promoted when infielder David Freese was put on the 10-day injured list retroactive to Friday with a left hamstring sprain. He caught a morning flight from Oklahoma City and got to the ballpark a couple hours before the game.

"I didn't know if I was going to play today, so I made the most of my opportunity," Smith said. "I was concentrating on the approach of the at-bat and getting the right pitch to hit."

Colorado manager Bud Black said not having much scouting information on rookies wasn't a factor in the losses.

"A couple bad pitches got us. Scott didn't locate his slider where he wanted to," he said. "There are going to be great wins and tough losses. They are on a little bit of a nice roll but we'll be back."

The Dodgers, with the best record in the majors, have won six straight games to tie the 1974 NL champions for the best start in

franchise history (54-25) and complete a 9-2 homestand. Kenley Jansen (3-2) pitched one inning.

Dodgers star Cody Bellinger hit a line-drive foul ball down the first-base line that struck a young woman in the head during the first inning. She was taken to a hospital for precautionary tests.

In the ninth inning, a female fan ran to watch Bellinger in right field. He was trying to fend her off, and security personnel tackled her as she tried to hug Bellinger.

All six Dodgers runs came via pinch-hit home runs. Chris Taylor greeted Rockies' reliever Chad Bettis with a three-run homer in the seventh to give LA a 3-2 lead. Colorado tied it in the eighth when Daniel Murphy scored from first on Tony Wolters' double into the right-field corner.

Colorado has lost 11 straight to Los Angeles dating to last season. The Rockies are 13 games behind the Dodgers in the NL West nearing the midpoint of the season.

"We came in here ready to go and they beat us pretty good," third baseman Nolan Arenado said. "At the end of the day we have to finish games. The good teams finish them. If we want to get where we needed to go we have to win those."



The Dodgers' Will Smith watches the flight of his two-run, walk-off home run in front of Rockies catcher Tony Wolters on Sunday in Los Angeles.

Roundup

Pujols completes emotional return to St. Louis

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — In a weekend full of emotional moments, Los Angeles slugger Albert Pujols saved the best for last.

Pujols capped off a stirring three-day return to St. Louis by exchanging jerseys with long-time friend and Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina following the Angels' 6-4 win on Sunday.

Pujols was cheered throughout his first series in St. Louis since leaving the club in free agency after the 2011 season. The former Cardinal got standing ovations before each plate appearance throughout the weekend and a curtain call after popping out in his final at-bat.

"This is probably one of the best moments of my career," Pujols said. "I'm going to put it up there with the two World Series championships."

Pujols met with Molina, his long-time friend, after the game. The two photographed and then exchanged jerseys on the field.

"That's something we felt from our hearts that we should do," Pujols said. "It's something that's going to be in my trophy case. To see the man that he has become, the leader, the champion. I can close my eyes right now and remember him, the little boy walking into Cardinals' camp. The man that he has become is unbelievable."

Los Angeles manager Brad Ausmus was overwhelmed by the support for Pujols over the three days.

"This is one of the most tremendous things I've seen in the game of baseball, the way he was treated as a visiting player,"



L.G. PATTERSON/AP

The Angels' Albert Pujols tips his cap during a standing ovation before his first at-bat during first inning Sunday against the Cardinals in St. Louis. Pujols won two World Series titles with the Cardinals.

Ausmus said. "I've always known how great the St. Louis fans are but this was something special."

St. Louis manager Mike Shildt was also impressed with the crowd's love for Pujols.

"A special tribute to a special man," Shildt said.

The 39-year-old Pujols was 4-for-11 over the three-game set, including a home run during a 4-2 loss Saturday. He spent 11 years in St. Louis and won three MVP awards and two World Series (2006, 2011) with the Cardinals.

After Pujols popped out with the bases loaded in the top of the ninth, fans chanted his name as he returned to first base the next half-inning. It may have been his

final chance to play in front of his old fan base.

Braves 4, Nationals 3: Johan Camargo had a two-run, pinch-hit homer in the 10th inning, and visiting Atlanta won its fifth straight series.

Overcoming an injury to stand-out rookie starting pitcher Mike Soroka, the Braves used the long ball and their bullpen to win the deciding matchup of a three-game set between NL East rivals.

Astros 9, Yankees 4: Jose Altuve hit a leadoff homer, rookie Yordan Alvarez connected again and visiting Houston ended its first seven-game skid in four years.

New York had won eight straight

but was stopped by ace Justin Verlander (10-3) and a quartet of homers, including a grand slam from Tyler White.

Indians 9, Tigers 3: Bobby Bradley doubled and drove in a run in his first major league plate appearance and host Cleveland completed a three-game sweep.

Bradley went 1-for-3 with one run and a walk. The 23-year-old first baseman also made a running over-the-shoulder catch in foul territory, delighting the home fans who eagerly awaited his debut.

Marlins 6, Phillies 4: Jordan Yamamoto won for the third time in three career starts, Garrett Cooper and Brian Anderson hit consecutive homers, and Miami handed host Philadelphia its seventh straight loss.

Blue Jays 6, Red Sox 1: Marcus Stroman pitched six shutout innings, Lourdes Gurriel Jr. had three hits and threw out a runner at the plate, and visitjg Toronto won its second straight.

Brewers 7, Reds 5: Brandon Woodruff struck out a career-high 12, Travis Shaver homered and Milwaukee beat Cincinnati.

Woodruff (9-2) cruised through the first five innings, allowed Joey Votto's three-run homer in the sixth and struck out two to finish the seventh. Host Milwaukee improved to 13-1 in the right-hander's 17 starts this season.

Cubs 5, Mets 3: Javier Baez hit the 100th homer of his career, a three-run drive in the eighth inning as the host Cubs overcame another home run by Pete Alonso to beat New York.

Alonso hit his 27th home run, breaking the Mets' record for most by a rookie in an entire sea-

son set by Darryl Strawberry in 1983.

Royals 6, Twins 1: Hunter Dozier hit a three-run shot during a five-run third inning. Homer Bailey was stung again pitching into the sixth and host Kansas City's best Minnesota.

Rangers 7, White Sox 4: Tim Lincecum and Danny Santana hit two-out, two-run homers in the second inning and Shawn Kelley shut down a late White Sox rally with his first four-out save in three years to lead host Texas.

Kelley struck out Tim Anderson to strand runners at second and third in the eighth inning after Chicago scored three runs to pull within 5-4. Kelley pitched a scoreless ninth for his 10th save, preserving the win for rookie Adrian Sampson (6-4).

Pirates 11, Padres 10: Kevin Newman walked with the bases loaded in the 11th inning to cap a four-run rally as host Pittsburgh finished a three-game sweep.

The Pirates rallied from three-run deficits in the ninth and 11th innings to win their fifth straight.

Rays 8, Athletics 2: Travis d'Arnaud drove in three runs and hit a two-run homer, Austin Meadows hit a three-run double, and visiting Tampa Bay earned a split of the four-game series.

Mariners 13, Orioles 3: J.P. Crawford had a career-high four hits and drove in four, Yusei Kikuchi had his best outing in a month, and host Seattle took advantage of an eight-run third inning.

Diamondbacks 3, Giants 2 (10): Tim Lincecum's single with the bases loaded in the 10th inning ended host Arizona's season-high six-game losing streak.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP/OLYMPICS/GOLF

US reaches quarters

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

REIMS, France — Megan Rapinoe converted a pair of penalty kicks and the United States set up a much-anticipated quarterfinal meeting with host France at the Women's World Cup with a 2-1 victory over Spain on Monday.

Rapinoe's first came in the seventh minute to the cheers of the U.S. supporters melting in temperatures that reached nearly 90 degrees at the Stade Auguste-Delaune. They were quieted a short time later when Jennifer Hermoso tied it up for Spain with the first goal the Americans had allowed in France.

Video review was used to confirm a foul on Rose Lavelle that gave the pink-haired captain the game-winner in the 75th minute, spoiling Spain's spirited effort in its first knockout-round appearance at a World Cup.

The defending champions head to Paris to face France on Friday night. The French defeated Brazil 2-1 in extra time Sunday night, with Amandine Henry

scoring the game-winner in the 107th minute.

A meeting between the three-time World Cup champions and the hosts at the home of Paris Saint-Germain has been anticipated since the tournament draw in December.

The United States skated through its group with a stage record 18 goals. And the team didn't concede a goal in the group stage for the first time at a World Cup.

Until Monday, the Americans had not allowed a goal in eight straight competitive matches dating back to the 2016 Olympics, outscoring opponents 44-0. It was the first goal the United States had allowed this year since a 5-3 win over Australia in an April friendly.

La Roja had not scored in its previous two games but still finished second in its group to Germany to get the matchup with the Americans.

Rapinoe's first penalty kick was the result of Maria Leon's tackle on Tobin Heath after a pass from Abby Dahlkemper.



ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/AP

The United States' Megan Rapinoe scores her second goal from a penalty spot against Spain during Monday's round of 16 match in Reims, France. The U.S. won 2-1.

Golf roundup

Green wins Women's PGA title

Associated Press

CHASKA, Minn. — Hannah Green held her nerve and saved par from the bunker with a 5-foot putt on the final hole to win the KPMG Women's PGA Championship on Sunday for her first major championship, and the first by an Australian in 13 years.

Green closed with an even-par 72 at Hazletville for a one-shot victory over defending champion Sung Hyun Park, whose 18-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole gave her a 68 and put the pressure on the 22-year-old Australian.

Green pulled a 4-iron into the bunker, blasted out to 5 feet and made the biggest putt of her life.

Among those to associate with her was Australia's most prolific major champion, Karrie Webb, which was meaningful in many ways. Webb was the last Aussie to win an LPGA Tour major in 2006 at the Kraft Nabisco. She also supports junior girls in Australia, bringing two scholarship winners to America each year.

Green was one of those recipients four years ago. Now she's a major champion.

"I'm speechless," she said through the tears. "I was really nervous playing the last five holes."

She finished at 9-under 279 and won \$577,500.

In only her second full year on the LPGA Tour, Green became the first wire-to-wire winner of this major since Yani Tseng in 2011. She is the third player in the last five majors to make it her first LPGA Tour victory.

PGA Tour: Chez Reavie won the Travelers Championship for



CHARLIE NEIBERG/ALL-AP

Hannah Green holds the trophy after winning the Women's PGA Championship on Sunday in Chaska, Minn.

his second PGA Tour title and first in 11 years, closing with a 1-under 69 for a four-stroke victory over Keegan Bradley and Zack Suler.

The 37-year-old Reavie, also the 2008 Canadian Open winner, finished at 17-under 263 at TPC River Highlands a week after tying for third in the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach.

European Tour: Italy's Andrea Pavan beat Matthew Fitzpatrick with a birdie on the second hole of a playoff in the BMW International Open for his second European Tour title.

Pavan finished with a bogey-free 6-under 66 to match Fitzpatrick at 15-under 273 at Munchen Eichenried.

Fitzpatrick closed with a 69. **Champions Tour:** In Madison, Wis., Jerry Kelly won his hometown event, beating Retief Goosen with a birdie on the third hole of a playoff in the American Family Insurance Championship.

Kelly closed with a 6-under 66 at rainy University Ridge to match Goosen and tournament host and fellow Madison player Steve Stricker at 15-under 201.

Milan-Cortina wins vote to host 2026 Winter Olympics

By GRAHAM DUNBAR AND DANIELA MATAR
Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — Riding a wave of widespread Italian enthusiasm to be an Olympic host, Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo won the vote Monday to stage the 2026 Winter Games.

International Olympic Committee members voted 47-34 for the long-favored Milan-Cortina bid over Stockholm-Are from Sweden that also included a bobsled track in Latvia.

Milan-Cortina's jubilant delegation broke into chants of "Italia! Italia!" when the result was announced, giving the Alpine nation a second Winter Games in 20 years.

"It's really emotional," Italian Olympic president Giovanni Malago said, close to tears at the winner's news conference. "It's a very important result, not only for me but the whole country."

Italy will get a third Winter Games, after Turin hosted in 2006 and ski resort Cortina staged in 1956.

Sweden never hosted the Winter Games and was sent to an eighth loss in bidding in the past 41 years.

A lack of enthusiasm for the project in Sweden — rating 28% below the Italians in the IOC's own polls — was a decisive factor.

"What was clear was the gap in public support," IOC President Thomas Bach said, suggesting it hinted at weaker political backing.

A spirited late campaign effort was in vain, including Stockholm's mayor Anna Konig Jerlmayr appealing to voters from the stage by singing a lyric from Abba song "Dancing Queen."

A sign of simmering Swedish frustration came minutes later when IOC board member Gu-nilla Lindberg pushed the limit of Olympic diplomacy ending her team's 30-minute presentation.

Lindberg challenged her colleagues to reward a new kind of creative, cost-effective bid the IOC has said it wanted — "Or is it just talk?"

"It just came. I felt it (needed to be said)," Lindberg told The Associated Press after the vote.

Instead, IOC members picked Italy despite a debt-hit economy which faces increasing European Union scrutiny.

"We submit with full confidence to your judgment," Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte told IOC members before their vote.

Both candidates would likely have failed to get this far in previous Olympic bidding contests.

The IOC has relaxed previously strict rules that demanded financial guarantees and government support earlier in the process. It was an attempt to revive Winter Games bidding with just two candidates on the ballot paper for the second straight time, since Russia spent \$51 billion on venues and infrastructure for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Now, the IOC seeks to avoid costly new venues — and potential white elephants — while encouraging regions and multinational bids to share the load. Hence, Sweden teamed with Latvia, across the Baltic Sea, rather than build its ice sliding sports venue.

"We have budget problems in Italy but I think that this is something that everyone has," Italy Undersecretary of State Giancarlo Giorgetti said at an

earlier news conference, citing the wealth of the Lombardy and Veneto provinces underwriting the games costs. "They are two of the richest provinces in Europe."

The IOC will give at least \$925 million toward Italy's games operating costs of up to \$1.7 billion.

After Russia's huge spending in venues, infrastructure and cost overruns for the 2014 Sochi Winter Games, multi-billion dollar construction projects were awarded in new markets for the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics and 2022 Beijing Olympics.

The 2026 contest met Bach's long-stated wish to return to traditional winter sports heartlands, use existing venues and cut costs.

The IOC praised both candidates for projecting sports budgets "on average 20% lower" than spending on the 2018 and 2022 games.

Building athlete villages in Milan and Stockholm shaped as the main capital investment and most uncertain ventures in the projects.

Last week, the IOC flagged Stockholm's village as a risk, and asked for more details of guarantees underwriting the project.

"A letter of intent is as important to us as any contract," Volvo chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg said in the formal presentation, in what seemed a rebuke to the Olympic body.

Needing to work hard to persuade Olympic voters, Sweden sent its heir to the throne, Crown Princess Victoria, and Prime Minister Stefan Lovfven to Lausanne.

Sweden's search continues for its first home Olympics since the 1912 Stockholm Summer Games.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

France wins in extra time, reaches quarters

Associated Press

As the score remained tied in extra time and the clock ticked toward a penalty kicks shootout, France's stress kept increasing. Hosting the Women's World Cup, Les Bleues are expected to win the title or at least come close.

"It's not simple. We're playing on our home turf," coach Corinne Diacre said through a translator. "There's a constant reminder that you have this pressure to perform."

France survived its first knockout match and advanced to the quarterfinals when captain Amandine Henry redirected Amel Majri's free kick for a tiebreaking goal in the 107th minute of a 2-1 victory over Brazil on Sunday night at Le Havre.

"I didn't remember what happened," Henry said through a translator. "I had my teammates jumping on top of me."

The World Cup hosts, in the quarterfinals for the third straight time, will play the defending champion United States or Spain at Paris on Friday.

"France has everything that it takes to win," Brazil coach Vado said through a translator. "France is absolutely prepared to win this World Cup."

France joined England, Germany and Norway in a thus-far all-European quarterfinal field.

"We know that there will be pressure. We know that there will be this burden to bear," Diacre said. "You have to understand that when you're playing in front of such a huge crowd, even when



FRANCISCO SECIO/AP

France's Amandine Henry scores in extra time during the Women's World Cup round of 16 match against Brazil in Le Havre, France, Sunday.

you're on your home turf, it's not something that's easy to get your head around. I think that we can be a little bit patient. I think we can allow our players to crumble under pressure, albeit for a couple of seconds."

Valerie Gauvin, whose first-half goal was disallowed in a video review, put fourth-ranked France ahead in the 52nd minute before a crowd of 23,965 at Stade Océane, but Thaisa tied the score 11 minutes later for No. 10 Brazil.

Henry scored on a left-footed

shot from 7 yards, getting ahead of Monica for her 13th goal in 86 international appearances, her second goal of the tournament.

Brazil had a chance to go ahead near the end of the first extra-time period when Debinha broke in alone and beat goalkeeper Sarah Bouhadid, but her shot headed toward goal was blocked in front of the line by defender Griedge Mbobck Bathy.

"We weren't at our best. ... I didn't recognize my team," Diacre said. "There is something

that is not jelling. Why? Because people are unfortunately not hitting their potential on an individual basis."

This marked perhaps the final World Cup game for 33-year-old Brazilian star Marta, a six-time world player of the year who scored a record 17 goals in five tournaments. And it likely was the last game in the showcase for 41-year-old Formiga, who appeared in a record seven World Cups.

"It's very unlikely that we will see another Marta," Vado said.

"It's unlikely that we still see another player like her for her talent, her professionalism, her character, everything."

France appeared to go ahead in the 23rd minute when Kadidiatou Diani lifted a cross in front of the goal. Brazil goalkeeper Barbara got her hands on the ball and Gauvin crashed into her. The ball went off Gauvin's shoulder and into the net as both players fell to the ground. After they recovered, Canadian referee Marie-Soleil Beaudoin signaled for a video review, and the goal was disallowed because of a foul.

Gauvin did score a goal that counted early in the second half. Diani sped down a flank past Brazilian defender Tamires and crossed. Gauvin slid in ahead of Leticia Santos and poked the ball past Barbara for her 12th goal in 22 international appearances, her second of the tournament.

"That tied the score with her sixth goal in 82 appearances. The score at first was disallowed for an offside call on Debinha in the buildup but was reversed in a video review. Wendie Renard's attempted clearance of Debinha's cross went to Thaisa, who scored with a left-footed shot."

"Obviously, I know my players inside out. I know we weren't 100 percent today and the objective is to hit that 100 percent for the next game," Diacre said. "Will this happen? I don't know. I don't have a magic wand. I don't have a crystal ball. I can't see into the future. But it's something that we're working on."

Scoreboard

Round of 16

Saturday, June 22
At Grenoble, France
Germany 3, Nigeria 0

At Nice, France
Norway 1, Australia 1, Norway wins 4-1 on penalty kicks

Sunday, June 23
At Valenciennes, France
England 3, Cameroon 0

At Le Havre, France
France 2, Brazil 1

Monday, June 24
At Reims, France
United States 2, Spain 1

At Paris, France
Sweden vs. Canada

Tuesday, June 25
At Montpellier, France
Italy vs. China. AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.

Tuesday CET, 1 a.m. Wednesday JKT
At Rennes, France
Netherlands vs. Spain. AFN-Sports, 9 p.m. Tuesday CET, 4 a.m. Wednesday JKT

QUARTERFINAL
Thursday, June 27
At Le Havre, France
Norway vs. England. AFN-Sports, 9 p.m. Thursday CET, 4 a.m. Friday JKT

At Paris
France vs. United States. AFN-Sports, 9 p.m. Friday CET, 4 a.m. Saturday JKT

Saturday, June 29
At Valenciennes, France
Italy/China vs. Netherlands/Japan

At Rennes, France
Germany vs. Sweden-Canada winner

SEMI-FINALS
Tuesday, July 2
At Lyon, France
Le Havre winner vs. Lyon winner

Wednesday, July 3
At Lyon, France
Valenciennes winner vs. Rennes winner

THIRD PLACE
Saturday, July 6
At Nice, France
Semifinal losers

CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday, July 7
At Lyon, France
Semifinal winners

By ROB HARRIS

Associated Press

VALENCIENNES, France — After all the rage and rebellion in the stadium, England players received a far more convivial reception back at their hotel they shared with Cameroon.

It came remarkably from Cameroon supporters who were far more graceful than some of their dissenting national team players earlier on Sunday evening in the humid cauldron of Stade de Hainaut.

England players who had denied their country a place in the Women's World Cup quarterfinals by winning 3-0 were applauded into the Royal Hainaut Spa and Resort Hotel.

The England traveling party led by Phil Neville welcomed the unexpected reception.

The manager had concerns the moment he was informed that they were sharing with the opposition in the small city of Valenciennes.

"I thought, 'No, that's not right,'" Neville said. "Then we went to hotel and it's been amazing. We saw them go out to training (on Saturday) and they had a ghetto blaster and the kit man went out singing and dancing.

"My players joined in dancing in the corridors. Our meal and meeting rooms were side by side. That's the spirit of football!"

But what unfolded on Sunday in was far from the "carnival atmosphere" Neville enjoyed the previous day in the newly opened hotel on a site of a former hospital.

By revolting against VAR decisions and contemplating not resuming play, the Cameroon players left Neville "completely and utterly ashamed."

The Cameroonians were convinced of a plot against them by the refereeing team.

In the dressing room at half-time, trailing 2-0 after Ellen White had been awarded a second goal initially scrubbed out for offside, Cameroon coach Alain Djemfina inflamed the anger.

"The referee wants England to win today," Djemfina said, according to an account of midfielder Raissa Feudjio.

As Cameroon seethed and wept at times on the field, there was at least one high-profile advocate of the petulant behavior: The head of the FIFA administration.

FIFA secretary general Fatma Samoura tweeted the Cameroon players "inspired many young girls," with "passionate and talented play on the field that made

your fans proud and your country is proud of you."

The view from the Confederation of African Football was very different.

Isha Johansen, president of CAF's women's committee, said the match "reflected badly not only on African women's football but African football on the whole" and wants punishments imposed.

"It is an issue which will be addressed and dealt with at the appropriate levels of governance," she added on Monday.

But Samoura endorsed the conduct of players who openly undermined the authority of referee Quin Liang by forcing delays to restarts as they huddled to protest against England goals.

Instead, Liang was just following the laws of the game by allowing White's goal to stand and then denying Ajara Nchout a chance to pull it back to 2-1 for another offside call that went against Cameroon on a video review. Nchout was in tears as angry teammates delayed the restart once again.

England players seemed more clued up about the application of VAR and the laws after pre-tournament briefings before flying out.

"Maybe (it's) why you've seen our players in a little more con-

trol," defender Lucy Bronze said. As an opposition anger boiled over, the English just waited for it to subside.

"As soon as you get caught up in that, or get worried about it," defender Millie Bright said, "you will lose momentum in the game. We stayed away from it."

Unlike some Cameroon fans in the stadium, who moved into seats right behind the benches where the coaches and fourth official sit. It led to issues which FIFA tried to explain away in a contorted statement after Neville reported hearing of fighting in the stadium's area.

A number of Cameroon fans had moved to the seats behind the team benches during the match in order to create a "fan block," FIFA said. "This required management by stadium stewards who, in the interests of all spectators, moved other ticket holders into hospitality seating."

"Although there was some verbal exchange between Cameroon supporters and stewards, there has been no report of any physical confrontation."

FIFA was silent on action against the team itself, or any criticism of disobedience that "Although there was some verbal exchange between Cameroon supporters and stewards, there has been no report of any physical confrontation."

SPORTS



Italy to host 2026
Milan-Cortina bid tops Sweden
in voting » **Olympics, Page 30**

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Moving on

Rapinoe lifts US over Spain

Page 30



The United States' Megan Rapinoe, right, celebrates after scoring her second goal during the round of 16 match against Spain on Monday in Reims, France. The U.S. won 2-1.

ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/AP

Third Dodgers rookie hits walk-off home run » Page 29



027664 463149